

# St. Joseph's College

WINTER 2008

## MAGAZINE



### Sister George Aquin O'Connor

President Emerita  
1921-2007

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# Message from the President



John of Salisbury, a noted 12th century humanist, once referred to himself and his colleagues at the University of Paris as “pygmies standing on the shoulders of the giants.” That quote came to my mind as I was thinking of Sister George Aquin, who served St. Joseph’s College for more than 61 years...23 as a faculty member, 28 as President and 10 as President Emerita. She was indeed a giant, and the St. Joseph’s College we know today is standing firmly on her shoulders.

Her sociology students were continually struck by her brilliance, her command of a diverse and ever-changing curriculum and her passion for her subject. At her wake, alumna after alumna remembered with fondness and a touch of awe the high standards she set, as well as the wit and humor with which she infused her classes. She was an inspiring teacher, way ahead of her time in content and methodology, who passed on to her students a lifelong love of learning.

As President of the College from 1969–1997, S. George was responsible for the transformation of the institution. Under her leadership, it went from a small college on a single campus with financial difficulties and a student body of about 400 young women, all studying the traditional curricula of a liberal arts college to a dual campus college, which is financially strong, with more than 5,000 students, men and women, taking a wide array of academic programs, both undergraduate and graduate. As the College grew and expanded, she never allowed it to lose sight of its unifying mission to provide a high quality academic experience at the most affordable

tuition in a student-centered environment. Always guided by our motto *Esse non Videri*, she set high standards, and she lived by them herself.

S. George was also active outside St. Joseph’s College, holding leadership positions in both the Long Island Regional Advisory Council on Higher Education and the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities. She was elected to many General Chapters of her Congregation, in which she also held leadership positions.

She had the wisdom and perspective of someone who has long, rich experience and was always willing to risk, to move ahead, to adapt. That balance was an invaluable asset to her colleagues in higher education as well as to members of her Congregation.

After she retired from office, S. George lived quietly but fully, always keenly interested in every aspect of the College’s life and activities, always supportive of those involved in its day-to-day operations, always willing to assist in any way, at any time. Her generous spirit, her presence at so many events and her deep, abiding love for the College were so evident to those of us fortunate enough to share those years with her. We were blessed, indeed, to have had her for so many years. We thank God for her and for everything she did for St. Joseph’s College, and we ask God to bless her with the joy and peace of eternal life.

*Sister Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J.*

Sister Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D.  
President



# St. Joseph's College

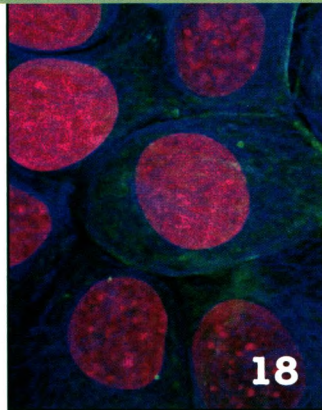
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## Diversity Issues Explored



Claudia Mirzaali

**F**aculty and staff from St. Joseph's College and Suffolk County Community College packed the McGann Conference Center November 2 for a jointly-sponsored half-day conference on "Diversity for the 21st Century."

Following opening remarks by SJC President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D. and SCCC President Dr. Shirley Robinson Pippins, keynote speaker Dr. Damon Williams discussed how faculty can create a positive learning environment in today's classroom. Dr. Williams is vice provost for multicultural and international affairs at the University of

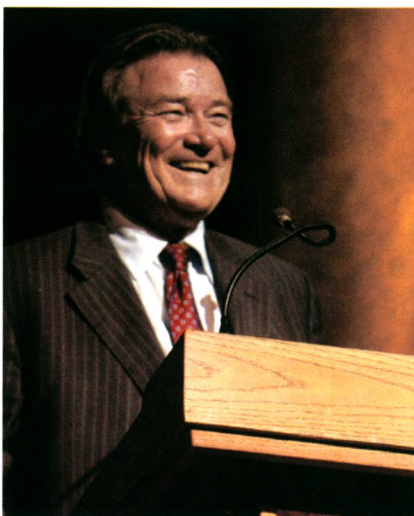
Connecticut and a recognized expert in diversity and inclusion management, particularly in higher education.

Noting today's "interconnected global economy, changing knowledge and transformative demographics," Dr. Williams called for "a discourse from different types of identities that are diverse in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, status, economics, (and) background." Twenty-first century leaders, Dr. Williams said, need to be thinkers and problem solvers, technologically savvy, good communicators, team players and comfortable with diversity.

Dr. Williams identified hip-hop culture and media as major factors impacting today's youth, and noted the necessity for educators to "be in tune" with these dynamics. Young people today are "post civil rights babies" in a world where "African-Americans are in college and in jail in record numbers, as we see a fragmentation of the African-American community."

Following Dr. Williams' talk and a question and answer period, the attendees broke up into discipline-specific workshops led by faculty from both colleges. ■

## Kroft speaks at College



Richard Slattery

**S**teve Kroft, of *CBS News* and *60 Minutes*, was the featured speaker at the Fourth Annual Presidential Lecture Series. He shared a "mosaic" of his experiences with a warmly receptive audience of more than 700 at the Long Island Campus on October 10.

Asked which was his favorite story, he said the best interviews are those with ordinary people who tell you some surprising things. He challenged his audience to "hold media to much higher standards and be prepared to be the future of the country." ■



## Dangers of Religious Illiteracy



Claudia Mirzaali

**Q**uestion: Who was Noah's wife? Joan of Arc. *Sodom and Gomorrah*? Some married couple that lived a long time ago?

When Stephen Prothero got answers like this in his religion classes, he was *not* amused.

Mr. Prothero, chairman of Boston University's Religion Dep-

artment, NY Times bestselling author and recipient of the 2007 Quill Award, discussed his book *Religious Literacy: What Every American Needs to Know—and Doesn't* in Patchogue recently, at the invitation of S. Suzanne Franck, Ph.D., of the Institute for the Study of Religion in Community Life.

Religious illiteracy has far-reaching and often disastrous consequences, both at home and abroad, Prothero said, citing our lack of understanding of the age old conflicts between Sunnis and Shiites in Iraq and between Buddhists and Hindus in Sri Lanka. We need to understand that many nations' policies, he said, are based on religious duties and beliefs, rather than solely on economic self-interest.

Here in the U.S., he pointed out, public policies affecting poverty, sexual preferences, war, torture, the environment and abortion are often based on someone's interpretation of "religion" and the Bible. In

his research, Prothero says, he found constant references in the Congressional Record to the Golden Rule and Armageddon. But what, he asked, does this mean, if we are ignorant of religious history and terminology?

Prothero believes education is the solution. And teaching about religion from a historical point of view is not contrary to Supreme Court decisions requiring public schools to remain religiously neutral.

Finally, he challenged his audience to inform themselves by reading the book of Genesis and Matthew's gospel, which he said, contain 90 percent of what's needed to understand the Bible and Christianity. He said we should also read the Koran, and discuss religion with our friends and in public forums.

"Religion," Prothero said, "is the most powerful cultural force in world history and as such, we need to know and understand it." ■

## Janet Wallach, Middle East Expert, Selected as Spring 2008 Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow



**J**anet Wallach, journalist and author, who has written extensively about the Middle East, has been selected as the Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow for Spring 2008. She is also President Emeritus and a co-founder of Seeds of Peace, a conflict resolution program that brings together teenagers from areas of violence—particularly in the Middle East.

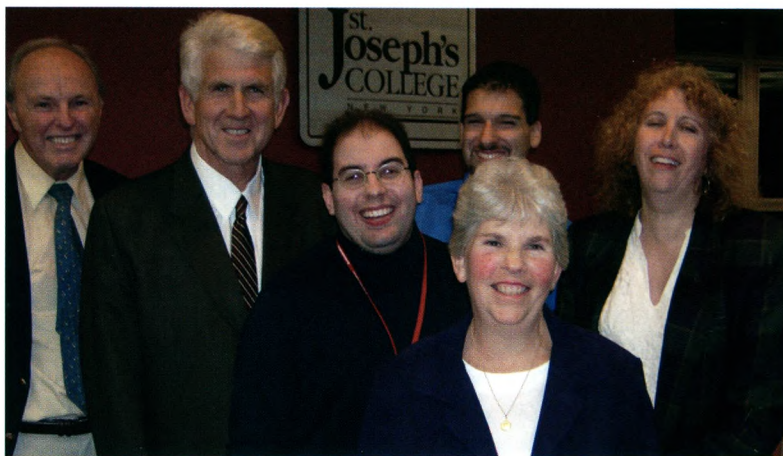
Her program will include changing relationships in the Middle East;

Iraq, past, present and future; Israel/Palestine; and conflict resolution. Her book, *Desert Queen*, is a biography of Gertrude Bell, the British official most responsible for the creation of Iraq after World War I.

Wallach will deliver her lecture, "Seeds of Peace: Turning Enemies into Friends," at the Brooklyn Campus March 11 and at the Long Island Campus March 13. Both events are slated for Common Hour. ■



## College Hosts Computing Sciences Conference



*Pictured from left are: William McAllister, Assistant Professor of Mathematics/Computer Science; Dr. Robert Metcalfe; Michael Dragone '02; Matthew Caputo, Instructor of Mathematics; S. Jane Fritz, Assistant Professor of Mathematics/Computer Science; and Victoria Hong, Assistant Professor of Mathematics/Computer Science.*

**F**or the first time, St. Joseph's College hosted the Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges (CCSC) Eastern Conference, held on October 12 and 13 at the Long Island Campus. S. Jane Fritz, assistant professor of mathematics/computer science at SJC, chaired the group's 23rd annual meeting.

"We were delighted to be the host," S. Jane said of the conference, which promotes networking among college personnel concerned with computer use in the academic environment.

Approximately 175 educators and students from across the country, including Adelphi, Columbia, St. John's and Stony Brook, attended the conference, which received "very positive evaluations," S. Jane said.

Bartholomew R. Mallio, information security analyst at Rockefeller University and former director of operations of information technology at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, delivered the keynote address on how message hiding is achieved and discovered. He also spoke about the importance of com-

puter security and computer science education. Mr. Mallio is responsible for all aspects of security at Rockefeller, including intrusion prevention, forensics and writing policy.

Dr. Robert Metcalfe, the renowned computing pioneer who co-invented the Ethernet in 1973 and founded 3Com Corporation, inspired banquet guests with his presentation, "Ethernet is the Answer: What is the Question?" In 2005, Dr. Metcalfe received the National Medal of Technology, the nation's highest honor for technical innovation. He was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame last year. Dr. Metcalfe first visited SJC to attend the graduation of his sister, Linda Tupper, a registered nurse who received both her B.S. and M.S. in health administration from the College.

The conference program included scholarly papers, tutorials, workshops, panels, "nifty" tools and assignments on current areas of computing education, plus a special Saturday track of presentations for K-12 teachers. A programming competition for undergraduate college students was also held, directed by SJC math/computer science department associate chair William McAllister. ■

## Children's Program to Celebrate 15th Anniversary

**S**pring 2008 will mark a milestone for SJC's "Especially for Children and Young People" program as it celebrates its 15th year and 45th semester.

Coordinator Patricia Russo researched the program when the Department of Child Study began welcoming children in grades K-7 on campus. She then designed the pro-

gram to provide reading, math and enrichment classes for local students.

More than 6,000 children have benefited from the program, which began in 1993 in Patchogue. Courses include art, cartooning and computer workshops as well as reading, writing, math and study skills. All instructors are New York State certified, and in fact, many are College

adjunct faculty. SJC students majoring in Child Study and Secondary Education serve as teacher assistants, and after graduation, many return to teach.

"Especially for Children and Young People" is held in spring, summer and fall and has been a part of the School of Professional (See Children's Program, page 5)



## SJC Names Two New Members to Board of Trustees

by Jessica McAleer Decatur



**T**he St. Joseph's College Board of Trustees elected alumni Mary Butz '69 and Peter M. Meyer '87 as new members last fall.

"The College is delighted to welcome two very distinguished individuals from both the academic arena and corporate world to join its leadership," said S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D., president of St. Joseph's College. "Both longtime friends and supporters of the College, Mary and Peter are welcome additions to the board, and we look forward to the guidance and expertise that they each will offer the College in the future."

Following a long career in public education, Butz is currently an independent consultant serving local schools in specialty areas, including leadership, community relations and professional and curriculum development. In 1993, she founded the Manhattan Village Academy, cited in the Chancellor's



1998 Annual Report as one of New York's best small schools.

Mary has received numerous accolades for her contributions to education. The program she created to help new principals succeed was the first of its kind in the city and recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a valuable national training model. An active member of the St. Joseph's College Alumni Association, she was honored by the College in 2003 at its 21st Annual Dinner Dance for her dedication and support in helping build a stronger educational foundation in today's public schools. Mary graduated from St. Joseph's College with a B.A. in History, earned a master's degree from Brooklyn College and an A.B.D. from Columbia University Teachers College.

Senior Vice President and Market Manager for the Brooklyn/Queens region of Commerce Bank,

Peter M. Meyer is responsible for consumer and commercial lending, and oversees retail branch operations in his market, which currently includes 26 locations.

He has held numerous senior lending positions with various banks in New York City, and has been instrumental in creating loan programs and products for health care and nonprofit organizations in the greater New York area. Active in his community, Peter has served on the boards of a variety of nonprofit and civic organizations, and is currently a board member of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, Queens Museum of Art and Culture, the Downtown Brooklyn Partnership, York College and the Flushing Willets Point Corona LDC. Peter graduated from St. Francis Prep and St. Joseph's College, later earning his M.B.A. from Long Island University. Peter lives in Brooklyn Heights, New York. His sons, Christopher '05 and Douglas '08 are also SJC grads. ■

### Children's Program

(from page 4)

and Graduate Studies and Continuing Education since its inception.

Asked why the program is such a success, Ms. Russo replied, "Everything is based in the academic...but we have that little special approach that makes us different from the others out there."

"Over the years families have enrolled in the program, with young children following their older siblings," Russo added. "Now those same young children are enrolled in the College." ■



## Professor Harting-McChesney Invited to Oxford Round Table



Claudia Mirzaali

**J**an Harting-McChesney, Ed.D., assistant professor of Child Study at SJC, was invited to make a presentation to the Oxford Round Table. The international conference entitled, "Literacy: Educational Strategies and Initiatives" was held last July at St. Anne's College, Oxford, England.

Professor Harting-McChesney's "Learning from First Year Teachers: Reflections of a Teacher Educator," was based on her doctoral dissertation research. In her qualitative study, she collected data for five years through a group of SJC Child Study majors; two years in the teacher-in-training program and later their three years in the field and how they managed that transition.

For two decades, the Oxford Round Table has hosted public figures, scholars and religious notables.

Reflecting on her trip, Harting-McChesney said, "My presentation was very well received. Here I am so many months later thinking of where I was. It was a remarkably unique experience. I feel very privileged to have had it." ■

## NEW FACULTY

St. Joseph's College welcomes **Dr. Maria Isabel Alfonso** (Modern Languages); **Ellen Bartley**, Ph.D. candidate, (Business Administration); **Dr. James Blakeley** (History); **Dr. Joan Curtis** (Child Study); **Maureen DelMonico**, M.A., (Child Study); **Dr. Thomas Grochowski** (English); **Dr. Karen Megay-Nespoli** (Child Study); **Dr. Valerie Nappi-Giordano** (Biology); **S. Elizabeth Pearson**, Ph.D. (Child Study); and **Dr. Julia Rothenberg** (Sociology).

## CHILD STUDY

**Dr. Claire Lenz** co-authored, *The Guided Reading Kidstation Model: Making Instruction Meaningful for the Whole Class*, released by the International Reading Association. Dr. Lenz was also selected Educator of the Year by St. John's University chapter of Phi Delta Kappa.

**Dr. Karen Russo** presented, "Giving Students the Works: Using Best Practices in Literacy to Enhance Learning in the Inclusive Classroom," at the Annual World Congress on Learning Disabilities Conference. Dr. Russo also published, "What if teachers were taught through their learning-style strengths?" in R. Dunn & S.A. Griggs (Eds.), and *What If? Promising Practices for Improving Schools*, Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.

**Dr. Renee White-Clark** (Child Study), **Dr. Maria DiCarlo** and **S. Nancy Gilchrist**, Ed.D. (Education) were selected as 2007 National CASTL (Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning) Carnegie Scholars for their collaborative project investigating constructivist views of pre-serv-

ice mathematics teachers and the impact on student learning.

## ENGLISH

**Dr. Peter Mascuch** presented, "Sons of Roger Thornhill and Raymond Shaw: the Innocent Heroes of the 70s Paranoid Political Thrillers," at the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Annual Conference.

## GENERAL STUDIES

**Dr. Fred Keating** was included in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers* for the fourth time in five years. Dr. Keating was also invited to present "Practical English: The Grammar-Composition Connection" at the National College Conference for Composition and Communication.

## HEALTH

### ADMINISTRATION

**Dr. Lauren Pete** introduced American hospice concepts and practices to hospice centers in St. Thomas and St. John in the Virgin Islands.

## HISTORY

**Dr. Phillip Dehne** presented, "How Britain Redefined Neutrality During the First World War" at a conference on Trade and War: The Neutrality of Commerce in the Inter-State System, at the Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies in Finland.

**Dr. Jana Lipman** presented, "Good Neighbors, Good Revolutionaries: Neocolonialism in Guantanamo, Cuba," at the Tepoztlan Summer Institute.

## PSYCHOLOGY

**Dr. Dominique Treboux** presented, "Adult attachment security, marital behavior, psychiatric and trauma risk status: Predicting mothers'



behaviors with preschoolers," at the Conference of the Society for Research in Child Development.

## SCIENCE

**Dr. Tetyana Delaney** (Biology) performed collaborative research on the genetic understanding of coral reef death in Puerto Rico.

## SOCIAL SCIENCE

**Dr. Richard Torz** (Economics) organized and presented, along with his EU-EMU Working Group (a group conducting ongoing research on the European Union and the European Monetary Union), two panel sessions each on current EU and EMU issues and concerns.

## SPEECH

## COMMUNICATION

**S. Grace Rowland, Ph.D.**, held a workshop, "An Examination of Theory and Practical Applications of Various Teaching Methodologies of Creative Drama: Showing the Positive Effects of Creative Drama on Students' Self-Esteem," at the Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference.

## ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF

Former SJC Controller **Georgeann Kelly** has been named assistant to John Roth, chief financial officer.

SJC welcomes **Matthew Brellis** as controller. He will oversee the Office of Business Affairs on both campuses.

**David Oroza** has joined the Office of Admissions as counselor on the Long Island Campus.

The Office of Institutional Advancement welcomes: **Maryanne Renz**, editorial director; **Jennifer Sarnicola '04**, alumni relations officer; **Justin Hansen**, web application developer; and **Christopher Gasiewski**, senior writer.

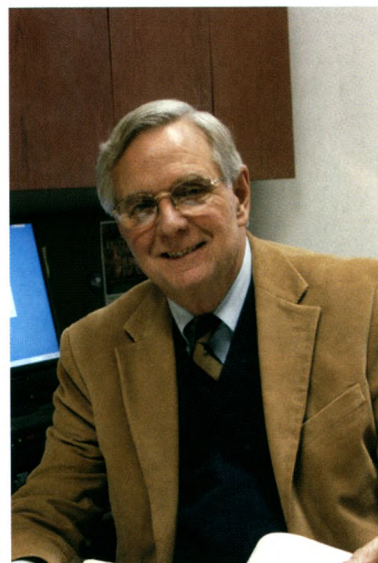
Former assistant bursar **Joy Privitera** has been promoted to bursar, overseeing operations on both campuses.

**Mike McGrann** is the new director of security for the Brooklyn Campus. He spent more than 20 years in NYC law enforcement, nine years as a confidential investigator in the Office of the First Deputy Commissioner at One Police Plaza, NYC. ■

## Maryanne Renz Named New Editorial Director

**M**aryanne Fotia Renz has joined the Office of Institutional Advancement as editorial director. Previously, Renz worked as a magazine editor and public relations writer. As creative director and senior vice president at a New York City advertising agency, she was responsible for print and TV campaigns for national accounts including AT&T, Gillette and Citibank. She also ran her own consulting firm. ■

## Dr. Thomas Travis Appointed VP of Planning



Claudia Mirzaali

**S**JC President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D., has named Dr. Thomas Travis vice president of planning. Dr. Travis is dean and VP of the School of Professional and Graduate Studies.

In addition to his continued leadership of the School of Professional and Graduate Studies, Dr. Travis will work directly with S. Elizabeth and the Board of Trustees on strategic and succession planning.

"At its heart, strategic planning is about strengthening and improving St. Joseph's College," said Dr. Travis. "It involves deciding where we want to be in the future and identifying a series of actions that will best get us there."

In her College-wide announcement, S. Elizabeth said, "We are at a point where we need to assure that future growth and development proceeds organically, and in keeping with our mission. Tom will help make that happen." ■



Claudia Mirzaali



## Students Aid Nicaraguan Village



*Alyson Cronin visits with the villagers.*

**S**t. Joseph's College President S. Elizabeth Hill, C.S.J., J.D., has equated service learning to, "making a substantive connection between the academic life and civic responsibility."

During spring break last March, a group of 20 students and two fac-

ulty members turned that notion into a reality when they performed various civic tasks in Nicaragua. The experience led to an ongoing commitment by the College to the residents of Sutiaba, an impoverished village of several hundred on the outskirts of Leon on Nicaragua's Pacific coast.

Under the leadership of Religious Studies Chair Dr. Thomas Petriano and Modern Languages Associate Chair Antoinette Hertel, some of the students helped build a house, while others worked with women and children. Many of these students, including some who have since graduated, returned to Sutiaba this January. Dr. Petriano said there was even a waiting list, and another group will go back in May.

"We have in a sense adopted Sutiaba," explained Dr. Petriano,

who returned to the country in January with some first-time students from Brooklyn.

One of the returning students, senior Jennifer Paetz, a history/secondary education major at the Long Island Campus, first went to Nicaragua because she "likes helping people" and found it "cool to go with school friends." Jennifer said the "best part was bonding with the children even though I don't speak Spanish and they can't speak English. We communicated with a lot of hand motions."

Although unsure of her plans after graduation, Jennifer envisions returning to Nicaragua some day to teach or maybe even open a school.

"It is a beautiful country and now I appreciate more of Latin American culture," she said. ■

## Brooklyn Students Run CSSJ Youth Conference

**S**t. Joseph's College hosted 150 high school students and chaperones from July 11-15 on the Brooklyn Campus for the national youth conference of the Congregations of the Sisters of St. Joseph (CSSJ), a non-governmental organization (NGO) in general consultative status with the United Nations. The theme was "Love of God and Neighbor Without Distinction."

Students and adults from CSSJ founded/sponsored secondary schools in five states bunked in transformed classrooms in Tuohy Hall, and participated in workshops and group projects designed to share and spread the Josephite charism.

Twenty SJC students ran the conference, which included a visit to the United Nations and a Broadway

show. Anthony Catalanotti, a junior and speech communication major from Brooklyn, served as conference director and sophomore Shaniqua Smith, a Delaware native studying business administration, handled registration and finances. They were assisted by student volunteers Liz Afre, Christian Branch, Katie Brucas, Huldah Charles, Rifka Clerveau, Jaclyn Collins, Tonia Corbin, Cassie Couamin, Yvonne Ferrara, Wynee Ganthier, Marie Guisment, Jessica Jeudy, Yamilee Laguerre, Adam Mace, Raquel Martinez, Dan Ristea, Cassandre Seide and Samantha Woison. S. Susan Wilcox, C.S.J., Brooklyn Campus minister and a representative for the CSSJ/NGO ministry, praised the SJC student workers.



"They grew tremendously in the intense four month process in terms of organization, team work, perseverance...and also in terms of new ways of thinking and viewing themselves and others," she said.

The 2008 CSSJ High School Conference will be held July 9-12. SJC will again host all workshops and activities. ■



## "Pink Week" Raises Lots of Green



*SJC students, faculty and staff walk in Prospect Park, Brooklyn*

**T**he American Society will benefit from funds raised during Breast Cancer Awareness Month last October on the Brooklyn Campus. "Pink Week" culminated in the "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" walk in Prospect Park on October 21, leading to a successful campaign.

St. Joseph's College participation in the walk grew over the last six years, with more than 40 students, staff and family members attending the 2007 event.

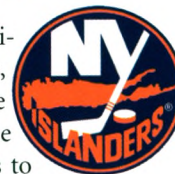
The Campus Activities Board (CAB) and Beta Upsilon Delta (BUD) took the lead on various initiatives. CAB sold T-shirts, recruited for the walk and also sponsored a "Bingo for Breast Cancer" common hour event.

BUD sponsored a week of activities that included a bracelet sale, bake sale and "Pink Day," where everyone was invited to wear pink. The Hispanic Awareness Club sold pink ribbons that day.

Overall, close to \$1,700 was raised for the cause. ■

## SJC Students Intern with NY Islanders

**T**hrough a dedicated effort, St. Joseph's College partnered with the New York Islanders to provide internships in the team's Operations, Events and Promotions Office. The internships were secured by SJC's Office of Career Services in Brooklyn as part of a comprehensive program helping students become acclimated to the business world.



Frank LaTerra, director of the Office of Counseling and Career Development in Brooklyn, spearheaded the initiative.

"A friend of mine, who had worked with the New York Jets, informed me that the Islanders had internship opportunities available for bright and motivated students who were interested in a career in the professional sports business," LaTerra said. "I knew that we had at least a dozen students that fit the bill."

The arrangement worked out immediately. The first intern, David DiLello, was hired by the Islanders organization after he graduated last year. Based on his positive experience, the Islanders picked up another St. Joseph's student intern for their 2007-08 campaign.

Also, similar agreements have been signed with the New York Jets, ESPN and the Staten Island Yankees.

"These internships came about as part of an exhaustive effort to reach out to major companies and corporations in the area," stated LaTerra. "Their need and the strong brand name of St. Joseph's has led to a high degree of success in creating these opportunities for our students and we only hope that we can build upon this in the coming years." ■

## LI Students Win Summer Internships



*Claudia Mirzaali*

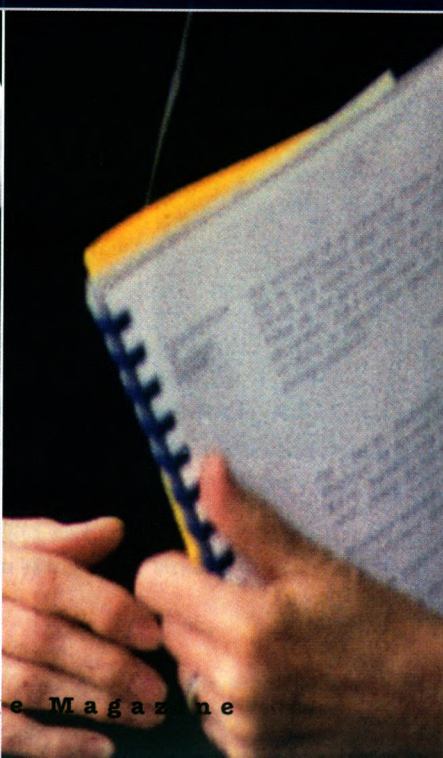
Four students from the Mathematics/Computer Science Department were selected to participate in the nationally competitive 10-week internship program at Brookhaven National Laboratory this past summer. From left are: Jessica Ragazzi, John Zabroski, Katie Johnson and Jennifer Mabanta.



STUDENT



*She was*  
**EXTRAORDINARY**





*So were her*

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS



S. George Aquin O'Connor, C.S.J.  
1921–2007

By Maryanne Renz



The former Margaret O'Connor, born in Astoria, Queens already had her degree from Hunter College when she joined the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1943. She began teaching sociology at the College in 1946 and later served as chair of the Social Sciences Department.

She earned a master's degree from Catholic University and a doctorate in sociology/anthropology from New York University. She received research fellowships from both Ohio State and Cornell.

In 1969, she was elected president of the College.

Those were tumultuous times. Vietnam. Riots. Marches. Students protesting, taking over university presidents' offices and demanding academic change.



S. Mary Florence Burns, C.S.J., friend and colleague of S. George, who served as her academic dean, recalled: "The New York State Education Department was pressing colleges to make it easier to accept transfer credits. With a fixed curriculum, this is difficult. Then, in the midst of all this, in the summer of '69, City University unexpectedly announced a policy of open admissions, tuition-free."

S. Mary Florence remembers the 10 years between '69 and '79 as the hardest. There was no money. Enrollment was down, largely because so many Catholic high schools were closing. Added to this was growing competition from CUNY and SUNY.

"This was a time when small private colleges were closing," she reminisced. "But S. George had a clear vision. 'There has to be a St. Joseph's College, so let us see what we can do.'" She realized, said S. Mary Florence, that SJC would have to change or go out of business like so many others. She was committed to do whatever she could. She absolutely refused to sit back and let the College disappear because she hadn't tried everything possible to keep it going.

So in the fall of '69, as the new President of SJC, S. George called on the faculty to revamp the curriculum, reducing the number of required credits from 76 to 56, making it easier to transfer from other colleges and providing greater freedom for students to explore their interests.

"We just kept moving," said S. Mary Florence.

In 1970, the College went co-educational. In 1971, there was an opportunity to go out to Long Island to establish a campus on the grounds of the motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Brentwood. In short order, SJC had an affiliation there with Long Island University for the first coordinate campus in New York State, sharing facilities and expenses. Almost simultaneously a program was created for older, non-traditional students, now known as the School of Professional and Graduate Studies, and the Brentwood Campus developed a two-year upper division program. In 1979, the College negotiated the purchase of the property in Patchogue, established a four-year program, and began to grow steadily.

"The early years were a scramble," recalled S. Mary Florence. "She had to take risks, but she was never foolhardy. She always had a clear direction in







“She had  
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I used to think  
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mind.” By the time she retired in 1997, the College enrollment had gone from 569 to almost 4,000.

To those who knew her best, she was a teacher first, last and always, even teaching a class after she became president. Dr. Thomas Travis, vice president for planning and dean of the School for Professional and Graduate Studies, remembers her fondly: “From my perspective of serving adult learners, I will be forever grateful to S. George for having the courage and wisdom, way back in the ’70s, to champion establishing a division within the College to serve non-traditional learners. She was ahead of the curve on this, and it helped establish St. Joseph’s as an early leader in helping adults advance their education and careers.”

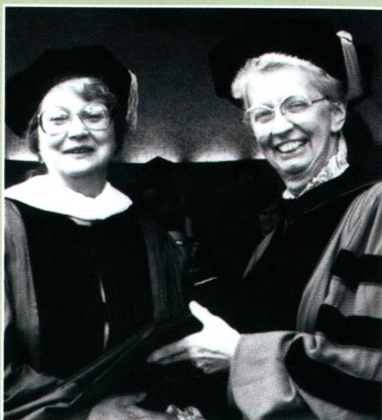
What was S. George like? “She had a quick mind, intelligent, able to assimilate information...I used to think she had antennae that could pick up vibes...and thoughts,” said S. Mary Florence. She described her as physically quick and fast moving until the last years when arthritis slowed her down and made moving painful.

Dr. Travis describes her as unfailingly dignified and decidedly ‘Old School’ in her manner. But for all her formality, he said, she could be surprisingly mischievous. “I’ll never forget the night after one of our Christmas parties when I was walking a female associate to her car. From behind, I heard my name being called. It was S. George who said in a loud voice ‘Be sure to give my best to your wife.’”

John Roth, chief financial officer of the College, tells this story about the construction of the John A. Danzi Athletic Center: “We wanted to have the facility open for the spring semester, so S. George asked me to keep an eye on the daily work schedule of Stanmar, Inc., the contractor.

Beginning in November, I moved into one of the nearly completed offices in the unoccupied Danzi Center with only a cell phone. Throughout the day, I would receive phone calls and voice mails from S. George, asking if we’d be ready to open for the spring semester. These were usually prefaced with ‘Are we done yet?’ A very astute and intelligent woman, S. George did have a comical side. When the Danzi Center opened on time, in front of board members, administrators, faculty, students and my family, she asked me to come up on the stage and thoroughly embarrassed me by presenting me with a sweatshirt that read, ‘Are we done yet?’”





S. George believed, according to S. Mary Florence, that "As a sociologist, you have to include everyone." She wanted to hear other people's viewpoints, starting what is now called the President's Council.

S. Mary Florence noted, "She never played the blame game, so this gave people freedom to speak honestly and express their opinions without fear. They felt they could change their minds, make mistakes. Her President's Council meetings were very open. Again, although she always had a direction in mind, she sought to move toward consensus.

"Not that she led by consensus, but she wanted those involved in a project to work out among themselves how they would achieve their goal. She wanted her staff to figure out their own way to get there.

"She was open to change and new ideas," continued S. Mary Florence. "She was determined. She had a curious nature. She was interested in people.

"She saw herself as a steward of the College," said S. Mary Florence, "in the biblical sense. Steward, not owner. She believed that it was her job to do the very best she could with what was

entrusted to her, so she could then pass the College on to the next 'steward.'" The building program was in response to real need: Callahan Library, the major renovation of the original gym into a classroom building, and finally, the state-of-the-art Danzi Athletic Center in 1997. The Long Island Campus' main building was named O'Connor Hall in her honor when she retired at the end of that year.

At the time of S. George's death, S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D., who succeeded her as president, said: "A brilliant, engaging and exacting teacher, she is remembered by her many students with great affection...Her breadth of knowledge, insight and wit will be remembered as well." ■

“She was  
open to  
change and  
new ideas.”





## Schaeffer Charles awarded Con Ed grant



Schaeffer Charles with College President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D.

**T**hrough the recent addition of a \$25,000 grant, Consolidated Edison of New York has substantially increased its endowment for the Con Edison Math and Science Scholarship at St. Joseph's Brooklyn Campus. This year's recipient was senior Schaeffer Charles.

In recognizing that today's students are the workforce and business leaders of tomorrow, the company focuses its community support on educational institutions and initiatives. Over the past few years, Con Edison has also awarded SJC grants to create smart biology

labs and for student research projects in Jamaica Bay.

St. Joseph's is grateful to Con Edison Vice President of Public Affairs Frances Resheske and Marie Cutrone Smith, strategic partnerships director, for nurturing this partnership with the College. ■

## Govan Book to Benefit Emilia Longobardo Scholarship

**J**ames Govan has published *Art of the Crèche: Nativities from Around the World*, based on his family's collection of nativities. Dedicated to his beloved wife of 37 years, Emilia Longobardo Govan '58, the book will benefit the scholarship established in her name.

In her diverse and accomplished career, Emilia was a college teacher, a manager in the legislative and executive branches of govern-

ment, lawyer and consultant. She was recognized as a Washingtonian of the Year in 1974 for her leadership in transportation and environmental issues. St. Joseph's College awarded her an honorary Doctor of Law degree in 1992.

All proceeds from the sale of Mr. Govan's book will be donated to the Emilia Longobardo Endowed Scholarship Fund established at SJC by Mr. Govan and his

sons, Stephen and Michael.

With color illustrations of more than a hundred nativities from over 70 countries, the book also includes features on some of the artists who created them.

*Art of the Crèche: Nativities from Around the World* is published by Merrill Publishers of New York and London and can be ordered from any bookstore or from amazon.com. ■



## Thomas J. Wendt Scholarship Fund Established

by Jessica McAleer Decatur

**S**t. Joseph's College has established a new scholarship fund in memory of Thomas J. Wendt '88, a former student leader who passed away on January 13, 2004. An embodiment of the characteristics that define the SJC mission, Tom led a life of integrity, intellectual and spiritual values, social responsibility and faithful service.

While dedicated to volunteerism and charitable causes, Tom had great affection for SJC and was active in various student organizations, including the Student Government Association, Circle K

Club and Campus Ministry. Tom served as a loyal employee of the College from 1994–1998, before leaving for a position at Suffolk County Community College.

At SJC as assistant to the Director of Student Services Marian Russo, Tom worked closely with student leaders, was an advisor for the student newspaper, organized events and planned numerous leadership training activities. He also taught a freshman humanities course and was an assistant tennis coach at the College.

All donations to the Scholarship Fund for Tom Wendt will provide a strong academic and value-oriented education to eligible student applicants. Pledges in the amount of \$7,500 have already been made toward the fund; a goal of \$25,000 to permanently endow the scholarship has been set.

By making a donation to the Thomas J. Wendt Scholarship Fund, you will help keep Tom's memory alive and make a difference in the life of a deserving SJC student. ■

## The St. Joseph's College Fund Update



**T**o date, the 2007–2008 St. Joseph's College Fund has received more than \$320,000 from more than 700 alumni. And while alumni have always been the College's biggest supporters, it should be noted that the SJC faculty and staff have raised nearly \$20,000 since the beginning of the school year. We appreciate their support.

We are grateful for recent donations to the Sister George Aquin O'Connor Endowed Schol-

arship Fund. S. George's work and caring continues to be reflected in so many aspects of the College: on both campuses through its faculty, staff, students and alumni. We will miss S. George's wisdom and guidance but remain assured that the lessons she taught will continue to nurture the spirit of St. Joseph's.

As we move into the second half of the giving season, we thank everyone who has con-

tributed to the Fund. We know the College will continue to benefit from the generosity of its alumni, faculty, staff, trustees, parents and friends.

For more information about giving to the St. Joseph's College Fund, please contact J.P. Lucero at 718.636.6880 or [jplucero@sjcny.edu](mailto:jplucero@sjcny.edu) at the Brooklyn Campus. For the Long Island Campus, please contact Carrie Graf at 631.447.3396 or [cgraf@sjcny.edu](mailto:cgraf@sjcny.edu). ■



# WHY *i* GIVE

"St. Joseph's College gave me the tools I needed to work effectively with diverse groups in a field historically dominated by men.

"SJC also taught me to enter meetings confidently and to communicate my ideas clearly and concisely to deans, administrators, directors, contractors, clients, vendors and staff.

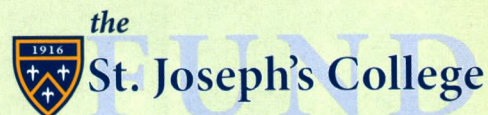
"I am passionate in my belief that the maintenance of the physical plant and properties is vital to St. Joseph's future so that the College's numerous programs and outreach can continue to grow and continue to produce outstanding graduates.

"My hope and my reason for giving is that the legacy of SJC will continue well into the future. I encourage all alumni to consider what they can do to continue the tradition of the College motto: *Esse non Videri: To be, not to seem.*"

Dianne Piwinski '72  
Assistant Facilities Manager of NYU  
Member of Executive Board of the SJC  
Alumni Association



You, too, can make  
a difference by  
pledging a gift to



**"...I encourage  
all alumni to consider  
what they can do  
to continue  
the tradition of the  
College motto:  
*Esse non Videri:*  
*To be, not to seem.*"**

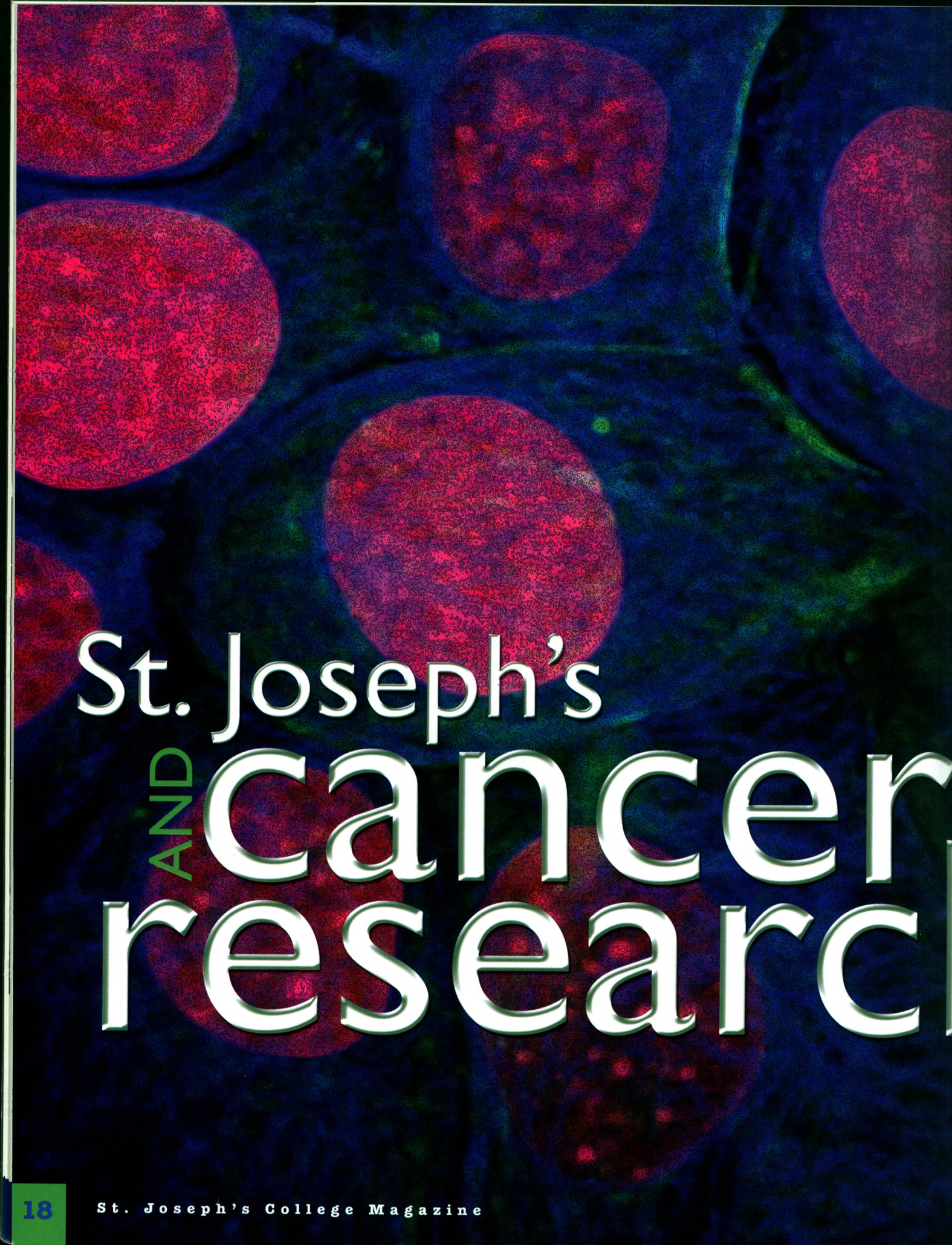
For more information  
about giving to  
St. Joseph's College,  
visit our Web site at

[www.sjcny.edu](http://www.sjcny.edu)  
or contact us at:

Brooklyn Campus  
718.636.6880  
[jplucero@sjcny.edu](mailto:jplucero@sjcny.edu)

Long Island Campus  
631.447.3396  
[cgraf@sjcny.edu](mailto:cgraf@sjcny.edu)



A microscopic image of cells, likely cancer cells, stained with a red dye (possibly hematoxylin and eosin) against a dark blue background. The cells are large and round, with prominent nuclei. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

# St. Joseph's AND cancer research



By Meg Ginnetty

It's safe to assume that either you or someone you know has been personally affected by cancer. Living on Long Island, you know the diagnosis rate is extremely high. What you may not know, however, is that groundbreaking research in cancer treatment is performed here in our own backyard in Bohemia—research that could change the face of chemotherapy as we know it.

Renowned electrochemist Dr. Merrill Garnett dedicated 40 years of his life to developing a compound called POLY-MVA, a liquid dietary supplement for patients undergoing cancer treatment such as chemotherapy and radiation. The active ingredient is palladium lipoic acid complex, and it can alter the chemical charge of DNA molecules and other parts of the cell, help repair damaged DNA and cause cancer cells to self-destruct. According to Dr. Garnett, POLY-MVA is non-toxic and it's effective in treating tumors. He said it also boosts the immune system and reduces pain while helping patients regain energy and appetite. Dr. Garnett has three patents on this compound, which may become a drug used as an alternative to chemotherapy.

The link between this innovative compound and St. Joseph's College is one man: Dr. Frank Antonawich, chair of the biology department at SJC and senior scientist and clinical research administrator at Garnett-McKeen Laboratory in Bohemia. In 2006, after spending more than a decade teaching at SJC while conducting research for Stony Brook University's neurology department, Dr. Antonawich made the move to Garnett-McKeen Laboratory under one condition.

"At Stony Brook, they always afforded me the opportunity to let my St. Joe's students come for the summer to conduct research projects," Dr. Antonawich said. "Roy McKeen (vice president of Garnett-McKeen Laboratory and president of the manufacturing


company that distributes POLY-MVA) loved the idea...he saw it as an outreach to the community."

A unique partnership was formed between the small laboratory and the relatively small College. Dr. Antonawich chose Patrick Valane '01, his former thesis student, to serve as his "right-wing man" at Garnett-McKeen Laboratory.

"I'm here to hopefully change the way cancer is treated," said Pat, who, as lab manager and head technician, tests new drugs on cancer cell lines and supervises the research that St. Joseph's thesis students conduct in the lab. "I'm here...because I believe in [POLY-MVA]...that this could change science."

Pat, who got his start in the field while conducting stem cell research under Dr. Antonawich





at Stony Brook University, strongly stressed the importance of the St. Joseph's College thesis requirement.

"The real-world experience of working in a lab for my thesis made me realize what I wanted to do," Pat said. "And now I get to work with students who are in the same position I was."

Matthew Cauchi '07 and Ashleigh Gross '07 were the first in what will hopefully be a long line of St. Joseph's College students to undertake their original thesis projects at Garnett-McKeen. Both were interested in cancer research, and with Dr. Antonawich as their mentor, the doors to Garnett-McKeen Laboratory were opened.

"Dr. A. wanted us to work with POLY-MVA in our cancer research, but approach it from two different angles," Matt said. "So that's where we branched off: Ashleigh started looking

at the low oxygen rates in most types of cancer, and I focused on the high rates of glucose being taken into the cancer cells."

Matt and Ashleigh are both convinced that their time at St. Joe's gave them excellent preparation for their research.

"From the very beginning (of your college experience), you are doing research and reading medical journals, doing projects and mini-theses," said Matt. "The professors are preparing you for this moment when you're let out on your own."

Using the scientific method they learned at St. Joe's, Matt and Ashleigh isolated the variables (oxygen and glucose) to determine the trigger for cancer's growth. Both students worked on human cell lines: stage-four brain tumors (tumors exhibiting the most advanced stages of cancer). The purpose of their experiments was to trace their findings back to the HIF (Hypoxia Inducible Factor) survival protein that's present in more than 85-percent of cancer types.

"We're trying to find out," explained

Matt, "is HIF turned on first, and that's why you get low oxygen and high glucose? Or is the HIF turned on because there's a lot of glucose being taken in or there's low oxygen surrounding the cells?"

The bigger question, as Ashleigh pointed out is: "Can we use the POLY-MVA as a trigger to shut off the HIF protein?"

From all accounts so far, the answer might well be yes. Though POLY-MVA is on the market right now as a dietary supplement used in conjunction with traditional chemotherapy, there's a strong possibility that the main ingredient, palladium lipoic acid complex, could be introduced in a drug form one day. It's what Dr. Antonawich is currently working on.

"Will (the FDA) eventually recategorize POLY-MVA as a drug? Quite possibly," Dr. Antonawich said. "We've received an investigational new drug application from the FDA, and we're in the process of running tests...who knows, maybe in the future every physician will prescribe POLY-MVA as part of their patient's chemo and radiation package. That would be phenomenal too."

Dr. Antonawich is most excited about the ability to bring his knowledge and enthusiasm for scientific research into the classroom and, in turn, being able to bring his students into the real world of scientific research.

"It's not science for science's sake anymore," said Dr. Antonawich.

*Patrick Valane '01, lab manager and head technician.*





After labeling, the bottles are processed in a "clean room."



Taking a moment from research are (from left): Dr. Merrill Garnett, Matthew Cauchi, Dr. Frank Antonawich and Ashleigh Gross.

"Students can actually see the product of their work come to fruition."

Both Ashleigh and Matt were so profoundly affected by their thesis experiences that they chose to pursue careers in line with the cutting edge work they were a part of at Garnett-McKeen. Ashleigh is now enrolled in a Ph.D. program at St. John's University where she will continue to conduct cancer research. Matt, who is now a first-

year student at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, looks to a future where he may be able to prescribe a drug version of this compound for his patients.

"This is huge for me," said Matt. "I might be able to use POLY-MVA in 10, 15 years as a pediatric oncologist."

There are currently five new St. Joseph's College students conducting research for their own thesis projects this year. And it looks as if

there will be an ongoing synergistic relationship between the College and Garnett-McKeen Laboratory.

"It is an education for us and it certainly is, I hope, an education for the students," said Vice President Roy McKeen. "And you never know when you'll have another Pat [Valane] come back to us...well-educated people who are interested in our work make the best employees." ■

Photos by Claudia Mirzaali



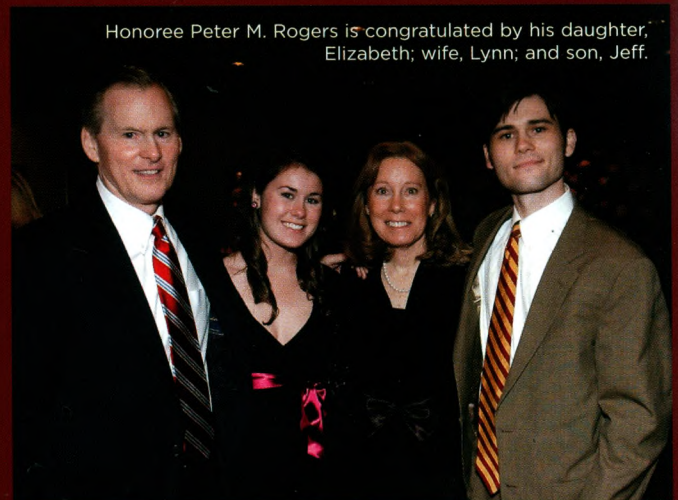


# Annual Gala Honors

## Peter M. Rogers and Elizabeth Williams Aurrichio, Ph.D. '63

*H*onored guests and friends enjoyed an evening of dinner, dancing and casino games at the College's 25th Annual Dinner Dance/Monte Carlo Night, held at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury. The November 1 gala honored longtime friends of the College: SJC Trustee Peter M. Rogers and alumna Elizabeth "Betsy" Williams Aurrichio, Ph.D. '63. Peter M. Rogers received the Distinguished Service Award and Betsy Aurrichio was presented with the 2007 Outstanding Alumna Award. The event was co-chaired by SJC President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D., and Dennis McCarthy of Asset Management Associates. Proceeds from the event benefit student scholarship programs. ■

Photos by Richard Slattery



Honoree Peter M. Rogers is congratulated by his daughter, Elizabeth; wife, Lynn; and son, Jeff.



Honoree Elizabeth Aurrichio (second from right) is joined by S. Stella Aurrichio, C.S.J.; daughter, Laura Aurrichio and husband, William Seeberg.



Guests test their luck at the Black Jack table during the Monte Carlo festivities.



College President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D. (center) congratulates the evening's honorees Elizabeth Williams Auricchio, Ph.D. '63 and Peter M. Rogers.

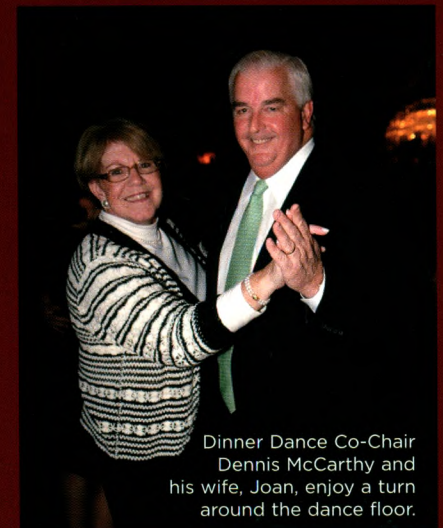


SJC Trustee Chris Carroll '88 (left) and guest.



Sheila Baird, president of the Board of Trustees, takes a moment to chat with honoree Peter M. Rogers.

Enjoying the evening's festivities are, (from left) S. John Raymond McGann, C.S.J.; S. Mary Maier, C.S.J.; Brooklyn Academic Dean S. Margaret Buckley, C.S.J.; and Provost S. Loretta McGrann, C.S.J.



Dinner Dance Co-Chair Dennis McCarthy and his wife, Joan, enjoy a turn around the dance floor.



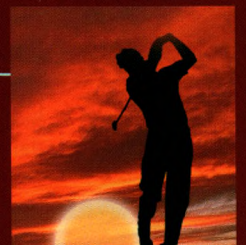
Diane Ravitch, SJC President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D., and Trustee Mary Butz '69.

Guests take to the dance floor to the music of Stages.



## Save the date

Be sure to mark your calendars for the College's 18th Annual Golf Tournament, Monday, June 2, 2008, at the Plandome Country Club in Plandome, Long Island. For more information, please contact the Special Events Office at 631.447.3396.





## STUDENT PROFILE

### Passion and Joy as Therapy

by Meg Ginnetty



Ashley Patishall

**S**ix hundred girls hit the stage at Radio City Music Hall, all donning leotards and character shoes; all except St. Joseph's College senior Ashley Patishall. At 5-foot, 8-inches, Patishall was also drastically smaller than the other dancers. That didn't seem to matter. She still captured the directors' attention during an audition for the Radio City Rockettes in 2005.

After her performance, Ashley said she was "stalked" by the directors for another audition throughout the next few months. The opportunity was there. But Ashley was deeply engrossed in her other passion: recreational therapy, an alternative medicine that uses recreation to relieve stress for individuals with disabilities, like Down's Syndrome, Parkinson's, multiple sclerosis and head trauma.

"Instead of prescribing painkillers, we prescribe art therapy, dance therapy, painting...whatever

the patient's passion is, whatever brings them joy," said Ashley, who has been dedicated to her work at the Gurwin Jewish Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Com-mack since 2004.

Dancing has been a passion of Ashley's since she was 2 years old. She's trained in ballet, pointe, tap and she even began her academic career by studying dance therapy at Suffolk Community College. After two years there, she transferred to SJC to embark on her recreational therapy journey.

"You know, it's so great to help somebody without even realizing you're helping somebody," Ashley said. "You take a patient with Parkinson's, and you can do splatter painting...or you get up and dance with somebody the night before their surgery."

Ashley incorporated her love for dancing into her career. She runs the evening cabaret at Gurwin, a

grant-funded program that provides nightly live entertainment for all the patients at the center. It's a chance for Ashley to spend one-on-one time with them in their natural environment and document how they're responding to therapy. She then shares that insight with staff doctors.

While talent agents are still trying to lure Ashley back onstage (she was recently offered a gig as a dancing princess at Disney World), she has clearly given her heart to her patients at Gurwin. During her senior year, her internship has become a full-time job and she must complete 800 hours of service per semester before graduating from St. Joseph's College. Then she'll take the Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist exam in May. But for Ashley this "requirement" seems more like a labor of love.

Her devotion is evident in the glowing recommendation her supervisor, Karen Nash, director of the Gurwin Center, gave when she nominated Ashley for the prestigious 2008 Student of the Year Award through the NYS Therapeutic Recreation Association. Nash cited Ashley's selfless devotion to her patients, her superior leadership and professional skills and the potential she exhibits for becoming director of her own therapeutic recreational facility. But Ashley, modest as she is talented, says it all springs from a simple philosophy.

"You ask somebody, 'What's your passion? What makes you happy? What gives you joy?'" Ashley said. "And then you take their joys, make it into therapy and try to cure them with it." ■



## Sports shorts

### Women's cross country defends Skyline title; Men fourth

Freshman Elyse Patrella took third after finishing the 5K course at Van Cortlandt Park in 21 minutes and 57 seconds and junior Katie Baudier (22:01) was fourth to fuel St. Joseph's College to a second consecutive Skyline Conference championship in October. The title is the fifth for the program since 1999.

Patrella and Baudier combined with junior Bridget Kissinger, who finished 10th with a time of 22:52, to take home All-Skyline honors.

In the men's 4.8-mile championship, SJC had two runners finish in the top 10, leading to fourth place. Junior Tyler Eckhoff (28:15) was third, and sophomore Alan Zollo (29:02) placed eighth. Both were named to the All-Skyline team for the second straight year, joining SJC grad and 2004 Skyline champ Bryan Knipfing, who accomplished the feat in 2003 and 2004.

### New day for women's tennis

It was a season to remember for Glenn Nathan and his women's tennis team this fall. The Golden Eagles went 12-2 overall and 6-1 in the conference, finishing second in the Skyline. They also advanced to the conference tournament final where it fell to top-seeded Mount Saint Mary College.

The run to the finals came after St. Joe's averaged two wins the past three seasons. And the Golden Eagles did it behind the racket of sophomore Danielle Rufrano, who went undefeated (14-0).



The St. Joseph's College women's cross country team motored to its second straight Skyline Conference championship this fall at Van Cortlandt Park. SJC brought home the hardware for the fifth time since 1999.

Rufrano was named first-team All-Skyline. Freshman Terri Leonard made the All-Skyline second team.

### Arthurs, Zaech take Skyline honors

There was plenty of firepower coming from the men's soccer field this fall. Not only were the Golden Eagles third in NCAA Division III in goals per game (3.91), but David Arthurs, a senior midfielder, won the Skyline Player of the Year Award. Stephan Zaech added to the accolades by winning the Skyline Rookie of the Year Award.

Records were broken too. Senior Chris Kunzig shattered the SJC record for assists (23). He was also tops in the nation in assists per game (1.0).

Seniors Marco Soccoccio and Gary Incremona made the All-Skyline team and it all resulted in SJC's appearance in the Skyline final as well as a berth into the ECAC Metro Tournament. SJC finished 14-6-3.

### Coach and Player of the Year on women's soccer

Angie Merante was second in the Skyline in goals (15) and points (32) en route to winning the conference's player of the year award.

Coach Josh Lee guided the Golden Eagles to a 13-7-2 overall and 6-1-2 conference mark. He was named the Skyline Coach of the Year.

Junior Meghan Brady won the team MVP award and senior Jackie Lento grabbed the Golden Eagle award.

Goalkeeper Dana Carney was ranked No. 17 in the country in save percentage (.883). She, along with freshman defender Daniela Esposito and Brady, were selected to the All-Skyline first team.

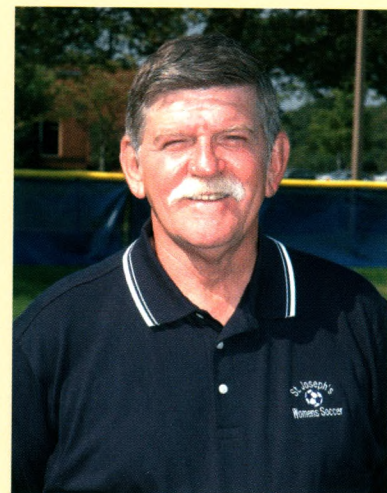
### Brooklyn basketball adds new assistant coach

The Brooklyn Campus added former standout Chantelle McCurdy as an assistant coach for the





**SJC's Angie Merante was second in the Skyline Conference in goals (15) and points (32) en route to winning the conference's player of the year award.**



**SJC women's soccer coach Josh Lee was named Skyline Coach of the Year.**

women's basketball team. McCurdy, who starred for the Lady Bears from 2002-04, assumed the role of top assistant coach.

"I am thrilled to have Chantelle join our staff," said Head Coach Frank P. Carbone. "Chanty was a tremendous presence during her playing days both on and off the court and a well-decorated member of many past championship Lady Bears teams. Her leadership skills and overseas coaching experience are sure to be of great benefit to us

as we continue in the development of our program moving forward."

### **Webcast enjoys second season**

In its second season, SJC expanded its coverage to broadcast a Lady Bears basketball game for the first time this winter. A highly successful venture in its inaugural season, SJC broadcast eight live games this winter on its Web site, [www.sjcnj.edu](http://www.sjcnj.edu).

Masterminding the production was Anthony Macapugay, SJC's

part-time sports information director. Macapugay directed the broadcasts with the assistance of some SJC students.

"We are proud of the fact that we continued to be one of the only schools in the metropolitan area to be able to provide this unique service for St. Joe's students, alumni and friends to enjoy," said Athletic Director Frank P. Carbone, who performed play-by-play for men's hoops contests. "They are extremely fun to produce." ■

## **CAN'T GET TO THE GAMES?**

For continuing updates on St. Joseph's intercollegiate men's and women's athletic teams, including game schedules, scores, news releases, etc., check out the SJC Web site at

**[www.sjcnj.edu](http://www.sjcnj.edu)**  
(click on Athletics).



**The SJC women's tennis team enjoyed its best season in years, going 12-2 overall and 6-1 in the conference. The Golden Eagles finished second in the Skyline.**



## Keaveny and St. Joseph's Capture Skyline Championship, Advance to NCAA Tournament

By Frank Flandina



Senior golfer Mike Keaveny shot a two-day total of 166 (80-86), capturing the individual title while leading St. Joseph's College to the 2007 Skyline Conference championship and an automatic bid to its first NCAA Division III Championships, which will be held May 13-16 in Atlanta.

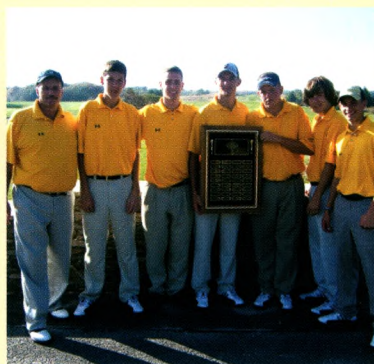
It's the first time SJC will compete for a national title, as the Skyline Conference did not receive an automatic bid until 2006.

At the Skyline tourney, Keaveny rallied from a one-stroke

deficit and eventually won the title by three shots. St. Joseph's placed five players in the top 10 en route to its second Skyline crown in the past three years.

Senior Anthony Oddone and freshman Adam Coelho tied for fourth place with two-day totals of 173.

Keaveny, Oddone, and Coelho each garnered first-team All-Skyline honors while freshman Charlie Essig and sophomore Chris Manzello were named to the second team for their respective sixth and ninth place finishes. ■



The St. Joseph's College golf team is headed to its first NCAA Division III tournament appearance after capturing the Skyline Conference title last fall. The NAAs are slated for May 13-16 in Atlanta.

## Lady Bears Claw to Hudson Valley Crown Again

By Frank Carbone



Another year, another title.

The St. Joseph's College volleyball team completed yet another outstanding campaign by sweeping local rival Mount St. Vincent, 3-0 in the Hudson Valley Women's Athletic Conference championship game. The title was an unprecedented fourth consecutive crown for the Lady Bears.

Besides finishing 22-4 last fall, SJC received their third straight bid to compete in the United States Collegiate Athletic Association's National Tournament, held in Fort Wayne, Ind. St. Joe's placed sixth.

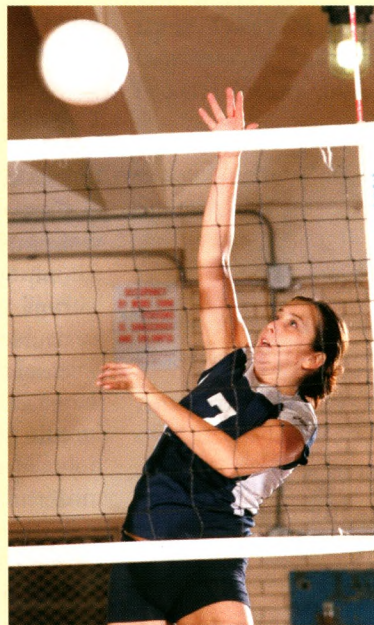
Prior to the national event, St. Joe's steamrolled their way to the HVWAC's regular-season title, going undefeated in games (24) and matches (eight).

There were plenty of Lady Bears stars, but Magdalena Wiecek continued to shine on the strong squad.

Wiecek, a senior outside hitter from Grover Cleveland High, was selected as an honorable mention member of the USCAA's National All-American team as well as the All-HVWAC team for the fourth straight season.

Wiecek was joined by Svetlana Medvedeva, a senior outside hitter who was named All-American and to the all-conference team, as well as Jaime Mascetti and Tamara Bulatovic, front-liners named to the all-conference squad.

This season, St. Joe's received the notoriety and accolades that come with consecutive championships, and the third national appearance will provide the experience and hunger necessary to catapult it to another title quest next year. ■



Senior outside hitter Magdalena Wiecek was selected as an honorable mention member of the USCAA's National All-American team as well as the All-HVWAC team for the fourth straight season.



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**A Romance With Spain**

*By Molly Altizer-Evans*



**H**er decision to participate in an SJC-sponsored summer travel program nearly 30 years ago changed Ronna Feit's life.

"I had taken four years of Spanish ...even enrolled in advanced Spanish grammar my freshman year at St. Joe's, but I couldn't speak it and I didn't like it," Ronna recalled.

Ronna's stance changed when she first explored Spain at the end of her freshman year. She and five others joined Sister Maria de Sales to study at the University of Madrid. They spent weekends visiting museums and monasteries and the month-long excursion ended with a trip to Andalucía.

"It captured my imagination, and I became passionately interested," Ronna said.

When she returned to the Brooklyn Campus, Ronna changed her major from science to Spanish, becoming the only Spanish major at the College at that time. She took every advanced Spanish course the college offered (most were classes in Spanish or Latin American literature) and graduated in 1980 *summa cum laude*.

"Actually, I was having such a wonderful time at the College that I hated to leave!" she said.

Her romance with Spain continued after school. She was granted fellowships to complete her master's degree and Ph.D. She earned an M.A. in Spanish Language and Literature in 1981 at the University of Delaware. She then com-

pleted her Ph.D. in Spanish Literature in 1990 at the University of Virginia.

"I really owe a debt of gratitude. I would not have learned Spanish or gotten the fellowships if not for St. Joe's and the courses and experiences I had there," said Ronna, who has presented at conferences in five Latin American countries. "I learned so much because of the small classes, the individual attention, St. Joseph's commitment to quality and their willingness to run classes when I was the only student enrolled."

After completing her course work at UVA, Ronna spent a year in Spain as a Fulbright Scholar doing research at the National Library in Madrid. She worked in the rare books and manuscripts room, transcribing the text from the handwritten manuscript copy of a 16th-century play by Spain's greatest dramatist, Lope de Vega.

At Nassau Community College, where she's a tenured professor, she is the coordinator for the Department of Foreign Language's beginning Spanish program and for advanced Spanish and literature courses. She's a founding member of NCC's Latin American studies program, and serves as vice chair of the college's multidisciplinary program, in which she teaches a course on world cultures.

Her book *Spanish Grammar for English Speakers* has been translated into Italian, and plans are under way to have it translated into German and Portuguese as well. This spring she will be receiving the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship from the State University of New York. But Ronna is not taking full credit for her achievements.

"I attribute my professional success and accomplishments not only to the thorough education I received at SJC, but to the deep sense of professional responsibility, collegiality and hard work instilled in me by my dedicated professors at SJC, who served as role models," she said. ■



Accepted to graduate school? Getting married? Ready to retire and take that long awaited trip around the world? That's great news, and we'd like to share it with the rest of the College community in Class Notes. Please submit news items and photos either through your class agent or through the Publications Office (319 West Roe Blvd., Patchogue, NY 11772; phone: 631.447.3265; e-mail: magazine@sjcny.edu). Please include your graduation year and degree (B.A., B.S., M.S., M.A., M.B.A.) earned. Thank you!

## 1930's

**Frances Oliveri Baich** '37 is a "snow-bird," spending winter near her daughter in Clearwater, FL.

**Isabelle Lonagan** '37 has lived in Woodbury, CT, for 46 years, but she's still a Brooklyn girl at heart, and she meets many St. Joseph's graduates at church.

**Kathryn Holmberg Schuster** '38 is living happily in an independent facility in PA, and would love to hear from her classmates. Contact her at hudsy79@yahoo.com.

**Connie Annucci** '39 is doing well and living with her husband in NJ.

**Aurora Dias-Jorgensen** '39 displayed her artwork at the Ceres Gallery in NYC in September 2007.

**Eleanor Van Wagner Nace** '39 has been staying in Sarasota, FL, for six months and on Cape Cod.

## 1940's

**Ruth Drucker** shared news from the Class of 1940: **Margaret Mack** received Holy Communion at home from a visiting Eucharistic Minister. **Frances Caetta Ianora** manages the ESL program in the Emerson (NJ) Public Library. **Marie Ponsot** teaches at the New School in Manhattan. **Ruth Drucker** and her sister, Marie, enjoyed the Fall Luncheon at the beautiful Caff  on the Green. **Catherine Quinn** '48 and her sister, Mary, also attended. The Quinns took the Malta Tour in March '07 and met up with some tour members at the luncheon. **Rosalie Saitta Cahill** started writing a Saitta family history.

**Virginia Worgull Davis** '42 traveled to Malta in Spring 2007 with S. Joan Ryan.

**Lee Terry Prestia** '43 moved into the Mangrove Bay retirement home in Jupiter, FL. She volunteers at the Jupiter Medical Center where she was a past president for 25 years.

**Rose Giambalvo Ferrara** '44 and her husband, Salvatore, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

**Eileen McKenna** '44 and her husband celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary in September 2007. They have 12 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Clare Bauch** sent in news from the Class of 1945: **Mary Daniels Dee** joined **Clare Bauch** for the Fall Luncheon at Caff  on the Green. Together they upheld the Class of 1945's reputation. **Betty Dudley** attended the New Jersey alumni luncheon in June. She has been a Eucharistic Minister for her parish and hospitals for more than 25 years. She will be renewing acquaintances at the New Jersey group luncheon in Oradell. **Doris Zerrenner Harrington** is still active socially and going to the theatre in NYC. **Margaret Meagher Lundebjerg** is settled happily in her new facility in CT. **Winnie Comer Turner** has relocated to NJ to shorten the distance to her winter retreat in Florida. Winnie lost her sister-in-law and classmate, **Marie Maddock Turner**, in January. She will be missed by all. **Jean Urbanek** had a great time at the February alumni reception in Orlando, FL. **Eileen Scanlon** was happy and surprised to hear from **Edith Voelker Piazza**. Edith is looking forward to attending her sister's special birthday in June and to traveling again now that she is on the road to good health. **Mary McGrath Brennan** visited Paris and London with her daughter, daughter-in-law and grandchildren. **Kay**

**Phillips Haffey** has returned to library work after her husband's passing.

**Margaret Dillon** '47 and her husband, Bill, are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary in January with family and friends.

**Alice Gorman Brandon** '48, although retired, is a part-time social worker for Long Term Home Health Care Program or "Nursing Home Without Walls." She has 51 clients ranging in age from 4 to 98. Alice and her husband, Bernard, have six daughters, 14 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**Angela Sola Gagliardo** '49 moved to Albertson, NY, from Flushing after 65 years.

**Louise Voelker Kinnie** '49 resides in South Carolina.

**Irene Lahey Martinek** '49 announced that two of her granddaughters have become doctors.

**Annabelle Skoglund** '49 welcomed great-granddaughter, Mackenzie Alana, in January 2007.

## 1950's

**Marie Prizzi Citrone** '50 welcomed a granddaughter in February 2007.

**Anne M. Brazill** '51 returned from a tour of the Canadian Rockies.

**Nancy Welker Frenze** '51 and her husband, Stanley, celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary. They have four children and 11 grandchildren.

**Josephine Vidiri Nunnenkamp** '51 was elected State President of the Virginia Grand Lodge of the Order of the Sons of Italy in America.



## First, Get a Foot in the Door...

By Molly Altizer-Evans



Steve Klein

**S**tephen Klein is living proof that hard work has its rewards.

After being one of 300 interns selected from a pool of a thousand hopefuls, Klein isn't shy about how he got in the door at CBS.

"You have to earn everything you get. And if you have to start at the bottom, start there and work hard," Klein said. "I said to her (the job fair interviewer), if I have to hold up a wire for hours, I'll do it ... as long as I can get my foot in the door."

Klein displayed that drive once he landed the internship. Whether it was interacting with staff and CBS officials, or just being personable with visitors to CBS' outdoor programs, the '07 grad

worked hard, though he said he never had to do coffee runs.

"It was not the stereotypical internship in any way," he said. "Interns on our show actually got outside while other interns stayed in the office."

Klein's real test came during the Beyoncé concert in Rockefeller Plaza. Klein, who has broadcast aspirations, coordinated and organized the audience of 2,000 eager fans by working with the show and security. He brought individual groups to the plaza, and faced a "bum rush of people," who sought closer access to the multi-platinum recording artist.

"That was one of the hardest days," Klein recalled.

Perhaps, but one of Klein's best days came when the intern interviewed both CBS "The Early Show" anchor Harry Smith and weatherman David Price. Smith, a seasoned journalist who has interviewed five different presidents, has anchored "The Early Show" since 2002.

"The best thing about the internship was getting to interact with the talent," Klein said. "It made me realize that not everyone is full of themselves."

Smith also attended a small liberal arts school, Central College in Pella, Iowa where he worked at the college radio station. His bachelor's degree wasn't in radio or TV, but he started at that little radio station and worked his way up.

At St. Joseph's College, Klein stayed true to his broadcast interest while majoring in speech and theater. Nerves

were a factor when Klein received his initial theater training.

"I did speech and debate," Klein said. "I still had nerves and a heart beating erratically, but Fr. John Gilvey, assistant professor of speech communication, helped me. He encouraged me to join Chapel Players and that helped me overcome that."

Klein later appeared in his first stage production, Alan Ayckbourn's "Comic Potential." He played Lester Trainsmith, a billionaire who controls global television and artificial intelligence.

"Theater helped me become more open, more expressive and more thoughtful, and with speech I was more articulate, and could make more clear and logical points and arguments," he said.

Ultimately, in his senior year, Klein landed lead roles in theater productions and gained more confidence. He now attributes that confidence to giving him the extra boost he needed to obtain the internship.

"You have to be interactive, personable and friendly," Klein said. "You have to be the one who says 'give me something to do.'"

"That's what I did. I showed willingness and proof that I'm a hard worker. Give me something. I'll do it and perfect it."

Klein applied to CBS to work full time. He's still waiting for the decision.

"I'm hopeful" the Woodhaven, Queens native, said. "It's not going to come as easily or as quickly as expected." ■

**Geraldine Hanlon Weiss '51** moved to Shelburne, VT, two years ago.

**Anne Moran Keenan '52** taught kindergarten for 36 years. She enjoys babysitting part-time for her grandchildren, Kaleigh and Connor.

**Irene Rinaldi Zingo '53** is living near San Diego close to her daughter, son-in-law and young grandchildren. She was glad to see pictures of "old" classmates.

**Ann Bauch** shared news on the Class of 1956: **Betty Savino Acerra**, former principal at Richmond Hill H.S., enjoys attending their annual faculty reunions. She and her husband spent a day at Belmont Race Track, an alumni event chaired by **Angela Alexander Maher**. Angela and her husband, **Winnie Cavanagh Malone** and her husband, along with **Joan Reardon Dillon** and **Ann Bauch** also attended. At the Fall Luncheon at the Caffé on the Green were

all the above plus **Mickey Burke Eldon**, **Carol Cahill Downey**, **Joan Flannery Leo**, **Helen Gruner McCrory** and **Mary Feeney Dwyer**. They also met on Staten Island for lunch in October.

**Helen Gruner McCrory '56** recently retired after 48 years of teaching. She and her husband, Harry, are enjoying their 13 grandchildren and plan to spend a few months in Florida this year.



**Carole Imbriale Langlois '58** and her husband, Joseph, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in August. They have three children and five grandchildren. They plan to attend the April class reunion.

**Lillian M. Frisko '59** and her husband, Dr. Peter Frisko, celebrated 45 years of marriage.

**Therese M. O'Rourke '59** cheered her sister, **Maureen Treanor Donohue '62**, as she competed in her seventh NYC Marathon last November.

**Rosanne Vastano '59** and her husband, Tony, are retired and living in Palm Coast, FL. They have 10 grandchildren.

## 1960's

**Elizabeth Trust Conlon '60** celebrated two weddings; her daughter, Marianne, in August 2006 and her son, Stephen, in October 2007.

**Sheila McCarthy Maher '60** recently lost her husband, Russell, after a short illness. They enjoyed their four children and three grandchildren during their 46 years of marriage.

**Gail Leonard Neill '60** teaches men in prison, helping them get their GED. She's

been working with incarcerated youth/adults since 1994. Gail and her husband, Jim, will be exploring northern Spain this August. They have nine grandchildren.

**Virginia Lee Powers '60** went on a 15-day cruise to Hawaii in October with friends. She enjoys retirement, has 12 grandchildren and will soon welcome her 13th.

**Rosemary Murtha Todaro '60** has four grandchildren; Emily, Tucker, Bradley and Jackson.

**Gabrielle Tinley McDonough '61** and her husband, Ed, of 44 years have five grandchildren. They spent October through April in Florida and she's addicted to golf.

**Judith Perry Cleary '62** welcomed a new granddaughter, Anna Judy.

**Mary Collins Macchiarola** shared news from the Class of 1962: **Virginia O. McLaughlin** visited Ireland in the spring to see relatives and to mountain climb. In September, **Ginny** and **Pat Silvestri** traveled through Greece. Mary Collins Macchiarola and her husband, Frank, went to Rome and Venice this past summer, and visited California and Salt Lake City. Mary encourages all Bishop McDonnell alums to attend their 50th

high school reunion. Call Mary at 347.529.4599 for more information. **Alice Sheridan D'Anna** came up from Florida in September to visit her mother and new grandchild. **Judy Perry Cleary** continues to enjoy her retirement and recently welcomed a new granddaughter.

**Peggy Ann La Salle Nicora '62** and her husband, Bernard, celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary in June 2007.

**Patricia Silvestri '62** attended the April reunion and enjoyed connecting with everyone. She has two children, Mark and Gia.

**Mary Alice Larkin Simonson '63** is enjoying retirement with her husband, Art. They spend their time traveling, golfing, skiing and enjoying their 10 grandchildren.

**Joan Hinde Stewart '65** has been both the president and French professor at Hamilton College in Clinton, NY.

**Ellen O'Leary '65** welcomed a granddaughter, Elizabeth Marian, in September 2006.

**Eugenia Serpe Sivillo '65** retired from 26 years of teaching at Blessed Sacrament School in Valley Stream, NY.

## Alumni Fall Luncheon



Alumni from a variety of class years attended the annual Fall Luncheon on November 3 at the Caff  on the Green in Bayside, Queens. Pictured at left: members of the Brooklyn Alumni Executive Board (from left:) Mary Buckley Teatum '70, Dianne Piwinski '72, Carole Rooney Morris '61, Amelia Abagnalo Kreitsch '70, Laurie O'Dowd Piccinni '73, Virginia O'Rourke McLaughlin '63, Joan Reardon Dillon '56, Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69 and Elizabeth Williams Aurricchio '63 (president). Photo right: (from left standing) Mary Jo Chiara '69, Executive Director of Alumni Relations; Frank Carbone, Brooklyn Athletic Director; and Bettyanne McDonough '59 (luncheon chairwoman) with students from the Brooklyn Campus.

Photos by SMB Photography



## The Non-Stop Volunteer

By Molly Altizer-Evans



Sandra Mohan Dunn

**W**hether she's mentoring students, serving as a guest reader in New York City schools or sponsoring community fund drives, Sandra Mohan-Dunn loves to volunteer.

"I've been volunteering since I was 14 years old," said Sandra, a Bellmore resident and 1998 graduate of St. Joseph's College. "As a teenager I worked with Ronald McDonald House and taught Sunday school at my friend's church."

Volunteering took on a deeper meaning for the self-employed consultant and president of Mohan-Dunn Associates, Inc. when she attended a national conference sponsored by the St. Joseph's Student Activities Board during her junior year of college.

"We learned how to organize an event and we got great publicity and encouragement for our organization from other educators and students," Sandra said.

Inspired by what she learned at the conference, Sandra and three classmates, Kate Sullivan, Heather Costa, and Shannon Pravetz created the College's first chapters of The National Student Speech Language Hearing Association and The Speech Honor Society on the Long Island Campus.

"St. Joe's taught me to reach out on a broader level," she said. "They deepened my commitment and gave me the tools and skills to broaden my volunteer efforts."

Broaden her efforts, she did. With the help of Dr. Dorothy Kelly, then director of the speech department, Sandra took on an internship that was life changing. She witnessed and assisted in hippotherapy, a speech therapy practice where patients are seated on horseback to gain sensory input. The experience displayed the fruits of volunteering for Sandra.

"Stroke victims and autistic children were able to interact with the horses with amazing results," Sandra recalled. "It was a beautiful internship."

During her senior year at St. Joseph's, Sandra became president of the International Dyslexia Association and learned more about the role of civic responsibility.

"St. Joe's made you proud," she said. "It was in me to volunteer and to gain knowledge, but the civic responsibility part, to use this education as my gift to benefit others, became much more important to me."

"I give as a community member first. That's my civic responsibility. A big part of that is what I took from St. Joe's."

Following her graduation, Sandra continued her work, carrying her volunteer efforts into other communities. She's worked with friend and Massapequa restaurant owner, Sal Carrillo, to support the William Heiser Foundation, a fundraising organization committed to spinal cord injury research and to assisting the victims and families of those with spinal cord injuries.

Sandra also sponsored The Guardian Brain Foundation's Book Sale at the Bellmore Street Fair. The group helps advance neuroscience research, provides support services and improves the quality of life for adults and children diagnosed with brain injuries, brain tumors, and Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease—a rare, fatal brain disease.

Through her company, Sandra was invited to work with a team from Adopt A Child: Guatemala, which funds community educational programs in that country. Sandra adopted an 8-year-old child named Marcos. While she hasn't yet met Marcos, they've been corresponding for more than 18 months.

"The first things he sent me were drawings he had done and he had written his name for me at the age of six-and-a-half," she said.

Sandra responded by creating a book for Marcos that explained her life in New York, the Yankees and her dog, Cooper. "Recently, I got a picture of Marcos from the group leaders and he was holding the book I made him," she said.

To continue her effort, Sandra also planned a book drive for Marcos and Adopt A Child: Guatemala. But the greatest benefit of all is the reward Sandra receives from volunteering.

Referring to SJC's motto, *Esse non Videri: To be, not to seem*, she said, "When Sandra leaves this earth, she will have made a difference, partly because of the education I got at St. Joe's." ■



**Abbie Digeon '66** has four granddaughters, Piper Jean, Marine Jolie, Erin Lynn and Karlee Glo.

**Mary Pickel Docherty '66** is retired, but teaches theology for part of the school year.

**Jean Duffy '66** plans to retire from teaching in June. In July, she's renting a villa in Tuscany for a two-week family reunion.

**Ann-Marie Paley '66** announced the arrival of her first grandchild, Charles Peter Paley II, in July 2007.

**Judith Raikowski Burr '67** retired after 37 years at JPMorgan Chase. In 2006, she and her husband, Lawrence, spent two months in England and Italy. In England, they visited family, and in Italy, they went to cooking school. This year, they traveled to Japan, Hong Kong and Australia.

**Margaret Courtney Gargiulo '67** is retiring from teaching kindergarten. Her departure marks the end of more than 50 years of Saint Joseph's alumnae teaching kindergarten at the John Lewis Child's

School in Floral Park. It all began with Anne Ruggiero Rose '54, Ann Bauch '56 and Eileen Feeney Smith '59.

**Anna Rose Perrone Geary '69** is retired, but she still works part time preparing students for the Virginia SOL (Standards of Learning) tests.

**Jane Cozzi Murray '69** will be moving with her husband, Michael, to Grand Beach, MI after living in Texas for four years.

## 1970's

**Diane Bronkhurst '70**, chair of the Social Studies Department at the Academy of St. Joseph in Brentwood, expects her first grandchild in November.

**Margaret Minson '70** was named executive director of Student Sponsor Partners. She most recently served as a vice president of Institutional Advancement at Marymount Manhattan College.

**Jo Nunziata Rossicone '70** retired as principal of IS220 in Brooklyn and is now

principal of St. Clare School on Staten Island. Her son, Robert, was married in June 2006.

**Mary Rehder Majestic '71** retired as a teacher of the deaf in July, and moved with her husband, Raymond, to South Carolina. Their daughter, Marlena, was married in June 2007.

**Mary Zini '71**, teaching at Mt. Vernon H.S. in Westchester, NY, has been listed in the National Honor Roll of Outstanding Teachers.

**Rita Scalzo '72** is teaching seventh grade social studies at Marlboro Memorial Middle School in Marlboro, NJ.

**Linda Riccobono Ciaccia '72** lives in Andover, MA with her husband, Peter. She taught in public schools until 2000, when she became a part-time learning specialist at The Pike School. Linda caught up with **Rosemarie Aiello Montaland '73**. In June, she reconnected with **Louise Nardo-Sulzer '72**. All three spent an evening at Pietro's restau-

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## It's All About the Children

By Molly Altizer-Evans



Emily Figueroa

**H**ow do you spell Emily Figueroa? E-N-E-R-G-Y to burn!

Just ask her eight children, six boys and two girls ranging in age from 15 to 31, or her nine grandchildren, or the 36 preschool children she teaches at the Dillon Center and the many children she volunteers with at the Dorothy Bennett Mercy Center. Better yet, ask her husband of 32 years, Jose, who functions as her personal alarm clock on those late nights when she's up until 3 or 4 a.m., poring over homework or creating lesson plans for the preschoolers she teaches.

"It's just amazing to me that she could go to school, take care of all these children, work here at the Dillon Center, and volunteer her time at the Dorothy Bennett Mercy Center," said Dr. Susan Straut Collard, director of the Dillon Center, a laboratory school on the Brooklyn Campus of St. Joseph's College.

Emily, who power walks from her home to the school each morning, can't wait to begin her days.

"I love working with children and I'm constantly amazed by what they can do," she said.

For the past 11 years, she's been proving that love with her volunteer efforts at the Mercy Center, a community center in Brooklyn where she works with children of immigrant families in after-school care.

"Because I'm bilingual, I can help both the children and their parents, and that's the best," Emily said.

But long before she arrives to volunteer, her day has already been filled to the brim.

Here's what her schedule looks like: Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Emily works at the Dillon Center with two separate groups of preschoolers. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., Emily volunteers at the Dorothy Bennett Mercy Center in an after-school program. On Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 to 7 p.m., Emily is working on her master's degree at St. Joseph's College, studying literacy and cognition.

Her involvement with SJC began a few years ago, when the then 40-something Emily returned to college at the encouragement of S. Kathleen Quinn, the director of the Dorothy Bennett Mercy Center. Emily had attended Queens College briefly before getting married, but she recalls, "I only attended one semester. It wasn't for me at that time."

Once her children were older and able to take care of themselves and their baby brother was in preschool, Emily joined the SJC family.

"It had been 25 years since I had gone to school. I was really scared," Emily said. "Here you have a woman in her 40s, and most of the students were 18."

With the encouragement of her professors, who made her feel comfortable and welcomed, Emily pursued her degree and completed it in 2000. She then applied for a position with the Dillon Center, where she's been employed full time for three years.

At the center, Emily takes her students on leaf hunts, helps them use their "walking" feet and their "indoor" voices, and enjoys seeing the preschoolers interact with each other.

Unless, of course, they all scream at the same time, which Emily admits, can happen. She recalled how she got their attention during a particularly loud episode.

"The first time I said, 'Take the bananas out of your ears,' they were hysterical," Emily said. "And then one said, 'I have an orange in *my* ear.'"

While the job is clearly fun for Emily, who can usually be found on the floor playing with the children, she is the one who gets the most from working with them at the Dillon and Mercy centers.

"This is a rewarding experience because I know I'm helping them," she said. "I'm learning from everybody." ■



rant in Bay Ridge. She would love to connect with any alumnus in the Boston or Naples, FL area.

News from the Class of 1973: **Sigrid Brandt Frawley**, **Jeannette Wiese Schuler**, **Laurie O'Dowd Piccinni** and **Jo DiVernieri** all had a great reunion at "A Day at the Races."

**Lillian Del Seni '78** went to Italy for three weeks after waiting 44 years to make the trip. She is awaiting her seventh grandchild.

**Maribeth Pinz Olsen '78** was appointed principal of Merrimac Elementary School in the Sachem Central School District in June 2007.

## 1980's

**Petrina Chiarelli '82** announced the upcoming marriage of her daughter, **Angela Chiarelli '97**, in May 2008.

**Ruth Quiles '82** received one of the first annual "Principals of Excellence" Awards, created by Time Warner to celebrate the leadership of exemplary principals in the New York City public schools.

**Dr. Vincent Castro '84** received his Ph.D. in Administration and Supervision from Fordham University.

**Doris Vazquez '84** and her husband, Hector, celebrated their golden anniversary with family and friends.

**Joan Ouderkirk Hilton '87** married Graham Gordon Rostron in August 2007 and lives in Sherburn-in-Elmet, England.

**Joseph Pancari '87** was appointed executive vice president/chief operating officer of the Cerebral Palsy Association of New York State. He has more than 20 years experience in the developmental disabilities field.

**Sean Joy '89** married Nancy Bennewitz in September 2007. Sean is employed by Tullett-Prebon.

**Helen Kotasek Luck '89** and her husband, William, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in May 2007.

## 1990's

**Cynthia Diane Finn '90** was elected president of the Suffolk Chapter of the New York State Society of Certified Public

Accountants in June 2007. She's a partner at Sheehan & Company in Brightwaters.

**Donald Wagner '90** and his wife, Anne Marie, announced the birth of their twin daughters, Kaitlin Joan and Bridget Mara, in March 2007.

**Susan Gargan '91** and her husband, Daniel, welcomed a daughter in August 2005 and their second child in July. Susan works as assistant principal at Eastern Suffolk BOCES.

**Miriam Rappelt MacDonald '91** and her husband, Scott, welcomed their first child, Maggie Brenna, in October 2007.

**William Matthew Groh '93** ran for Suffolk County Legislature on the Republican ticket. He is chairman of the Suffolk County Bar Association's Labor and Employment Law Committee as well as vice president and past president of the Parkdale Civic Association. He lives in North Babylon with his wife and son.

**Barbara Lassen '93** and her husband, Erik, welcomed a son. Barbara is principal of the Dayton Avenue School in the Eastport/South Manor Central School District.

## First LI Alumni Singles Night



Long Island alumni enjoyed an evening of salsa dancing instruction, karaoke, food and fun at the first Alumni Singles Night at Cinco de Mayo in Port Jefferson Station. The October 4 fiesta was sponsored by the Alumni Association.

## Help for First-Time Homebuyers



The Long Island Alumni Association hosted a seminar to aid first-time homebuyers on November 13. Eileen Anderson, (standing back left), senior VP at the Community Development Corporation of Long Island, addressed an alumni, staff and guest audience where she answered questions about negotiating the maze homebuyers face; from affording a home on LI to dealing with the confusion of numbers, procedures and rules.



## STAYING IN TOUCH

To learn more about alumni activities, serve at an alumni event, reach your class news agent or to update your records, please contact us in the Office of Alumni Relations:

### Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69

Executive Director  
Alumni Relations and Stewardship  
St. Joseph's College  
245 Clinton Ave.  
Brooklyn, NY 11205  
718.636.6882

### Matthew Colson '02

Associate Director  
Alumni Relations  
St. Joseph's College  
319 West Roe Blvd.  
Patchogue, NY 11772  
631.447.3215

We'd love to hear about what you and your classmates are doing. So give us a call, drop us a line, e-mail us at [alumni@sjcny.edu](mailto:alumni@sjcny.edu) or check out our Web site at [www.sjcny.edu](http://www.sjcny.edu).

**Let's stay connected!**

## Brooklyn Alumni Wine Tasting In SoHo



Brooklyn alumni and friends gathered at the Vintage New York Restaurant in SoHo for a fun evening of wine tasting and camaraderie on October 11. SJC's own Jazz Ensemble provided music for the guests' entertainment. Enjoying the evening were (from left) Vanessa Barrios '00, Maggie Ornstein Sloan '00 and Vicky Barrios '00.

## Long Island Wine Tasting Tour



Alumni tasters review a wine list at Palmer Vineyard, one of three wineries visited during the Long Island Wine Tasting Tour on LI's East End held on September 29. The tour included a gourmet sandwich lunch at Martha Clara Vineyard and a stop at Briermere Farm.





*Best wishes to Stephanie Collura and Chris Kearney '01, who were married on November 3, 2007. Stephanie is assistant art director in the Office of Institutional Advancement on the Long Island Campus. Chris is a school psychologist in the Sachem School District and adjunct professor in the Psychology Department on the Long Island Campus.*

**Patricia Melvin '97** and her husband, Jerry, welcomed their fourth grandchild, Ryan McCourt.

**Renee Kantro '98** is assistant professor of liberal arts and sciences at Briarcliffe College. She established a learning center and coordinates the "Who's Who" selection process and annual awards brunch.

**Jonathan Maher '99** is pursuing his master's degree.

## 2000's

**Denise Hawryluk '00** celebrated her son's graduation from Boston University.

**Melissa Kelsch '00** and her husband, Doug, welcomed a daughter, Gabrielle Frances Kelsch, in January 2007.

**Amanda Liss '00** received her M.S. in Library and Information Science in 2005. She moved to Virginia in January 2006 to work for the Loudoun County Public Library.

**Jean Nobile '00** is currently attending SJC for her M.B.A. She's a member of the

Board of Directors for FACT (Find A Cure Today) for Breast Cancer.

**Danielle Rochford '01** and Dan O'Connell married in June 2007 and spent their honeymoon in the Greek Islands and Istanbul, Turkey. Danielle teaches third grade in Brooklyn.

**Cheryl Kurz Ayala '02** received a M.S. in Secondary Education last May. In September, she will be teaching seventh grade at St. Lucy's School in the Bronx. Cheryl and her husband, William, started a computer services business called Enduring Designs.

**Laurie Cappas '04** received tenure from the Mount Sinai School District. She teaches sixth grade special education, and completed her master's in 2006.

**Andrea Gallo '04** is teaching eighth grade mathematics at New Voices Middle School. She is attending Brooklyn College to earn 30 credits above her master's.

**Amber Green '04** and Michael Danis married in June 2007. Amber is a special education teacher in Syosset Public Schools. They live in Islip Terrace.

**Jennifer Sarnicola '04** joined the Office of Alumni Relations at St. Joseph's College, Long Island Campus, as an alumni relations officer.

**Peter Griffith '05** was appointed chief of staff for Farmers Insurance Group/Zurich IT Operations North America Service Center in June 2007.

**Nicole LoDuca '05** and Michael Clark were married in June 2007. Nicole is a substitute math teacher at East Islip High School.

**Christopher Valis '05** and his wife, Laverne Wilson, welcomed a daughter, Courtney Ellen, in June 2007. They were married in August 2005.

**Bryan Gill '06** was appointed coordinator of intramurals at St. Joseph's College, Long Island Campus. Last fall, he performed in the Drama Society's production of "Leader of the Pack."

**Candice Valentine '06** married John Mollica in January 2007. Candice is a spe-



*Charles D. Tator '02 and Daria Liles '03 were married July 28, 2007. Charles is a social studies teacher for the William Floyd School District and Daria is an alumni officer at SJC's Long Island Campus.*

cial instruction teacher for Tender Age Pediatric Therapies Inc.

**Matthew Paul Cauchi '07** began his first year studies at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg, WV. ■



*Best wishes to Janine Farraj '05 and Abraham Sleem who were married on May 6, 2007. Janine is assistant to the vice president for enrollment management on SJC's Brooklyn Campus.*



# Alumni Voices

## Esse non Videri: "To Be, Not to Seem"

By Ann C. Eckardt '05

**Alumni Voices is a forum for our graduates to write about a variety of topics. We welcome your submissions of 500 words or less. Articles may be edited for space or clarity. E-mail your submissions to: [magazine@sjcny.edu](mailto:magazine@sjcny.edu). Please include a telephone number where you can be reached.**



"Conducting a college search can be a daunting experience for high school seniors."

**T**hroughout the day, over a thousand students smiled politely as they shuffled nervously past our tables inside the Danzi Athletic Center gymnasium. Some had concerns regarding practical issues, like financial aid. Others came with a parent or sibling alumni, hoping to carry on the SJC tradition.

This was the scene at the open house on November 4, 2007. Just a few short years ago, I was the visiting high school senior. Now, I am an alumna affiliated with the College whose motto is: *Esse non Videri: To be, not to seem.*

Conducting a college search can be a daunting experience for high school seniors. They're at a developmental crossroads, completing adolescence. Psychologist Erik Erikson defined this period as identity versus role confusion, believing this crisis (along with others throughout the maturation process) should be resolved with a positive outcome, in this case identity.

Look at the incoming Class of 2012. Imagine struggling to choose a major, thinking about loans, and deciding whether to attend a local school. With these questions and uncertainties, students search for a

college, hoping to find a home there. This is yet another piece of the puzzle in defining their identity. They don't want a college that *appears* to be something, but one that actually *is* something.

Besides helping at the alumni table at the open house, I was able to stand with the psychology department, answering questions about majors. A few students were curious about job prospects after earning their degrees and some even wanted information about graduate school.

Overall, it was a pleasure to see how SJC has evolved. We are truly "*being*" and not "*seeming*," and SJC will continue to develop and adapt. As we carry on, let us continue to create individuals who successfully navigate their personal developmental struggle and emerge true to our motto, "*To be, not to seem.*"

*Ann C. Eckardt is a board member-at-large of the Alumni Association, Long Island Campus. She is a doctoral candidate at Hofstra University in School-Community Psychology and a part-time faculty member at the Derner Institute of Advanced Psychological Studies at Adelphi University. ■*



# SPRING REUNION LUNCHEON



## St. Joseph's College CELEBRATES

The Golden Jubilee of the Class of 1958

The Silver Jubilee of the Class of 1983

The Anniversary Classes of 1933, 1938,  
1943, 1948, 1953, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978,  
1988, 1993, 1998 and 2003

**SATURDAY,  
APRIL 26, 2008**

**The University Club  
One West 54th Street, NYC**



**Mass 10:30 a.m.**

**Cocktails 11:30 a.m.**

**Luncheon 12:30 p.m.**

**\$75 PER PERSON**

**Members of the Class of 1958  
are guests of the College.**

**All alumni are invited.**

**Spouses and guests are welcome.**

**Call 718.636.6882 or  
e-mail [alumni@sjcny.edu](mailto:alumni@sjcny.edu).**





## Comedy Roast of

# Marian Russo

"A celebration of memories, stories and quotes."

**Friday, February 29, 2008**

Proceeds will benefit an endowed scholarship in the name of beloved alumnus Thomas Wendt '88, and Keep A Child Alive.

For tickets and more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations on the Long Island Campus at 631.447.3215 or [alumni@sjcny.edu](mailto:alumni@sjcny.edu).

*Save the Date!*



*Walkathon/5K Run*

Co-Sponsored by the Alumni Association  
Suffolk Chapter and the  
Rose Brucia Educational Foundation

*April 20, 2008, 8:30 a.m.*

*Long Island Campus*

Watch for a registration brochure in the mail!

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations on the L.I. Campus at 631.447.3215 or [alumni@sjcny.edu](mailto:alumni@sjcny.edu)

## Celebrate St. Pat's Day with SJC



March behind the St. Joseph's College banner in the 2008 New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade on Monday, March 17.

Join SJC students, staff and faculty at 12:40 p.m. on West 46th St., between 5th and 6th Aves. Come early for a traditional Irish breakfast at 10 a.m. at Connolly's Restaurant, 150 E. 47th St., between Lexington and 3rd Aves. Cost for breakfast is \$20 per person.

To sign up to march and/or attend the breakfast, contact the Brooklyn Alumni Office at 718.636.6882; the Long Island Alumni Office at 631.447.3215 or [alumni@sjcny.edu](mailto:alumni@sjcny.edu).



## Alumni & Current Students

of the  
Graduate Management Studies Program

Please join us for the  
Seventh Annual Networking Dinner

at the  
Bellport Country Club  
March 12, 2008

Watch for your invitation in the mail!



## Alumni

Bernadette Dolan '27  
Genevieve Kelly '30  
Wilma Riepe '35  
Evelyn Winter Sexton '40  
Carol Schluter Dowd '44  
Margaret Maroldy '45  
Marie Maddock Turner '45  
Diane Volze Cukro '46  
Virginia McEvoy '50

Vilma Sauss Campbell '51  
Florence Mulvaney '51  
S. Frances D. Reynolds, C.S.J. '52  
Dorothea Casey Gleason '53  
Edwina Burke Eldon '56  
Mabel Wehrheim Olsen '56  
Kerry Sullivan Courtois '57  
Rita Ramondetta Rondello '71  
Emma Rigatti Haran '74

Mary Lee Robinson '77  
Elsa Boyce '78  
JoAnne Fiorentino '79  
Melissa Marchese Dougherty '81  
Clifford W. Schmitz '84  
Cecilia Wilnau '88  
Nicole Montalbano Wagner '03  
Christine Belezair '07

## Relatives & Friends

Husband of Ethyl Comerford '40  
Leo Connor, husband of  
Frances Connor '40  
Grace Murphy, sister of Rosemary  
Glimm Myers '48 and mother of  
Clare Murphy '65  
Jack Monastiro, husband of  
Lillian Infosino Monastiro '55  
Edwina Burke Eldon '56, sister of  
Helen Burke Naylor '51  
Kevin P. Murphy, husband of  
Ann Malloy Murphy '56  
Russell Maher, husband of  
Sheila McCarthy Maher '60  
Edward Meagher, twin brother of S.  
Agnes Meagher, C.S.J. '65, former  
director of the Callahan Library  
Charles W. Lynch, father of  
Helen Lynch Canal '66  
Salvatore Bartoloma, father of  
Antonia Bartoloma Mohan '69  
George Carpetto, husband of  
Diane Evanac '71

Franklyn Frawley, husband of  
Sigrid Brandt Frawley '73  
Thomas Hiler, father of Mary  
Louise Hiler Mumford '73  
Deacon Edward Joesten, father-in-law  
of Dr. Moira Royston '74, biology  
professor and Dr. Michael Joesten  
'76 and Edward Joesten '77  
Joseph Mulligan, father of  
Anne Mulligan '75  
Concetta Liberatori, mother of  
Catherine Ann Liberatori '76  
James O'Callaghan, father of Mary  
Anne O'Callaghan McElroy '80  
and Catherine O'Callaghan '82,  
both former faculty members  
of SJC  
Dorothea Gleason, mother of  
Mark Gleason '84  
Nicholas Brienza, grandfather of  
Frank Flandina '00, sports  
information director in the  
Danzi Athletic Center

Ivan Alvarez, brother of Yana  
Alvarez '01, former assistant  
director of Financial Aid  
Frank Riccobene, father of  
Alison Riccobene '03  
Carlos Medrano, father of  
Ana Medrano '05, of the  
Registrar's Office  
William Guarino, brother of  
Rose Guarino Cianchetti '05  
Joaquin Figueroa, father-in-law of  
Emily Figueroa '05, teacher in  
the Dillon Center  
Mother-in-Law of Renata Slavutskiy  
'06, administrative assistant  
Catherine Costa, grandmother of  
Thomas Brown '07 and mother  
of Lorraine Brown, nursing  
department faculty member  
William McNeely, father of  
Dr. Susan Hudec, dean of  
Student Life

## Faculty & Staff

S. George Aquin O'Connor, C.S.J.  
former faculty member and  
president of St. Joseph's College  
from 1969–1997

Victor Brown, former precep-  
tor/coordinator of Health  
Administration in the Division  
of General Studies

S. Myra Paul Mansfield, C.S.J.  
former history teacher from  
1965–2001



# EVENTS CALENDAR

## SPRING / SUMMER 2008

Office of Alumni Relations  
Office of Special Events  
Clare Rose Playhouse

B - 718.636.6882 / L.I. - 631.447.3215  
L.I. - 631.447.3396  
631.654.0199

For a complete listing of events,  
visit the College Web site at  
[www.sjcny.edu](http://www.sjcny.edu).

FEBRUARY / MARCH

**FEBRUARY  
through  
Feb. 28**

### **Photographs of Cuba by Rick Miller**

Board Room Gallery, O'Connor Hall, Long Island Campus  
*Sponsored by the Long Island Council for the Arts*

**21-March 18**

### **Identity Formed and Transformed: A Juried Exhibition of Brooklyn Artists**

Receptions: February 26, 5:30 p.m.; March 15, noon  
Alumni Room Gallery, Tuohy Hall, Brooklyn Campus  
*Sponsored by the Brooklyn Council for the Arts*

**22-March 9**

### **Violet - Music by Jeanine Tesori. Book and Lyrics by Brian Crawley**

February 22, 23, 29; March 1, 7, 8 - 8 p.m.  
February 24; March 2, 9 - 3 p.m.  
*Clare Rose Playhouse, Long Island Campus*

**29**

### **Comedy Roast of Marian Russo, Director of Co-Curricular Programs (Long Island)**

7:30 p.m., D'Ecclesiis Auditorium, O'Connor Hall, Long Island Campus  
*Sponsored by the Long Island Office of Alumni Relations*

**MARCH  
1-31**

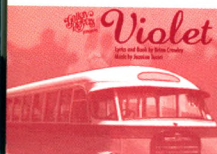
### **Nicaragua in Words and Images: Pictures and writings by students and faculty reflecting their 2007 trip**

Board Room Gallery, O'Connor Hall, Long Island Campus  
*Sponsored by the Long Island Council for the Arts*

**2-9**

### **Florida Alumni Receptions**

*Sponsored by the Office of Alumni Relations*



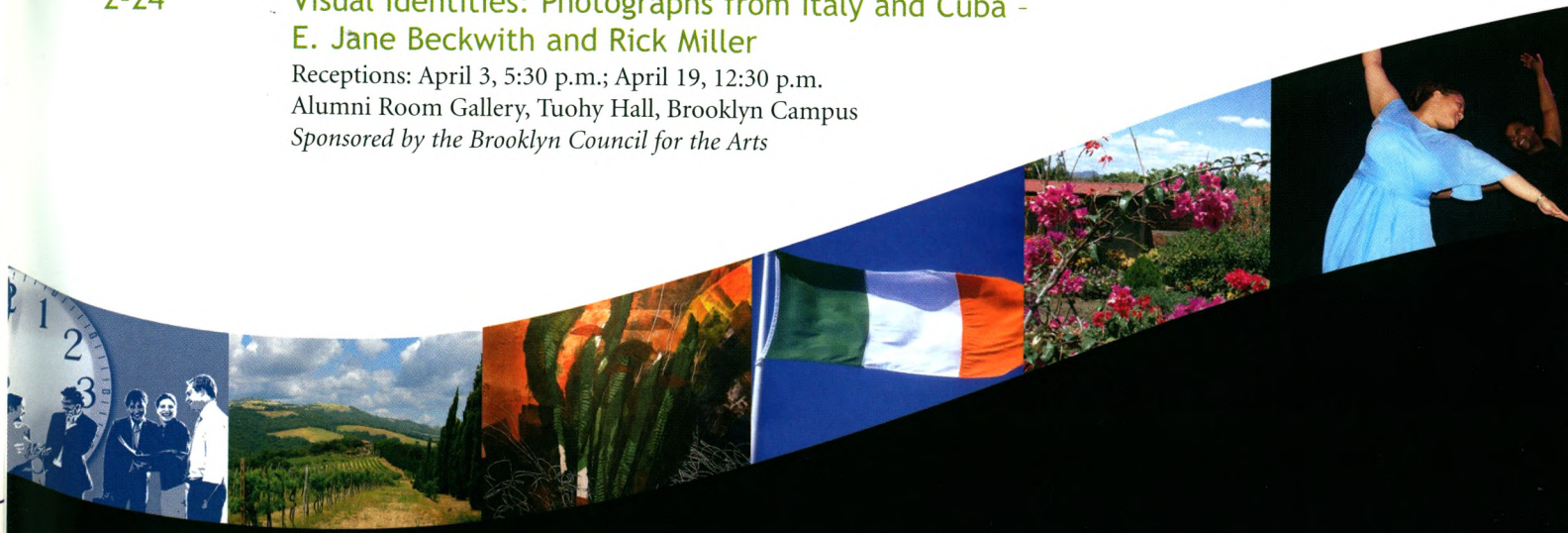




- 5 **Career Alternatives to the Classroom - Panel Discussion**  
6:30 p.m., Shea Conference Room, O'Connor Hall, Long Island Campus  
*Sponsored by the Long Island Office of Alumni Relations*
- 10-13 **Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow Janet Wallach**  
March 10, 12 and 13 on Long Island; March 11 in Brooklyn
- 12 **Risa Jaroslow and Dancers**  
12:40 p.m., Tuohy Hall Auditorium, Brooklyn Campus  
*Sponsored by the Brooklyn Council for the Arts*
- 12 **Graduate Management Studies 7th Annual Networking Dinner**  
6 p.m., Bellport Country Club, Bellport  
*Sponsored by the Long Island Office of Alumni Relations*
- 17 **St. Patrick's Day Parade - Breakfast at Connolly's**  
10 a.m., traditional Irish breakfast, Connolly's Restaurant, \$20 per person.  
12:40 p.m., line up to march on West 46th St., between 5th and 6th Aves.  
*Sponsored by the Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations*
- 27 **Alumni Networking Reception**  
6:30 p.m., McGann Conference Room, O'Connor Hall, Long Island Campus  
*Sponsored by the Long Island Office of Alumni Relations*

APRIL

- 1-21 **SJC Faculty Art Exhibition**  
Board Room Gallery, O'Connor Hall, Long Island Campus  
*Sponsored by the Long Island Council for the Arts*
- 2 **Rives from HBO's Def Poetry Jam**  
12:40 p.m., Tuohy Hall Auditorium, Brooklyn Campus  
*Sponsored by the Brooklyn Council for the Arts*
- 2-24 **Visual Identities: Photographs from Italy and Cuba - E. Jane Beckwith and Rick Miller**  
Receptions: April 3, 5:30 p.m.; April 19, 12:30 p.m.  
Alumni Room Gallery, Tuohy Hall, Brooklyn Campus  
*Sponsored by the Brooklyn Council for the Arts*







A P R I L

- 10 **Dance Club - Alumni Night**  
6 p.m., Brooklyn Campus  
*Sponsored by the Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations*
- 19 **Alumni 'Softball Picnic**  
SJC vs. College of St. Elizabeth  
1 p.m., Keyspan Field, Greenpoint  
*Sponsored by the Long Island Office of Alumni Relations*
- 20 **Alumni Association Walkathon/5K Run**  
8:30 a.m., Long Island Campus  
*Sponsored by the Long Island Office of Alumni Relations*
- 22 **St. Joseph's College Career Fair (Alumni and Students)**  
11 a.m., Danzi Athletic Center, Long Island Campus  
*Sponsored by the Long Island Office of Alumni Relations*
- 22-May 14 **Spring SJC Student Art Exhibition**  
Board Room Gallery, O'Connor Hall, Long Island Campus  
*Sponsored by the Long Island Council for the Arts*
- 25 **Chapel Players and SJC Drama Club Alumni Night**  
7 p.m., Brooklyn Campus  
*Sponsored by the Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations*
- 25-May 10 **The Gay Deceiver by John Patrick**  
April 25, 26; May 2, 3, 9, 10 – 8 p.m.  
April 27; May 4 – 3 p.m.  
*Clare Rose Playhouse, Long Island Campus*
- 26 **Spring Reunion Mass and Luncheon**  
10:30 a.m., The University Club, NYC  
*Sponsored by the Brooklyn Office of Alumni Relations*







**For those who were unable to attend S. George Aquin's funeral, we include excerpts from her eulogy, written by S. Mary Florence Burns, C.S.J. and delivered by S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., J.D., president of St. Joseph's College.**

As we look to the center aisle, surely we can appreciate the words of the poet Wordsworth, "And all that mighty heart is lying still."

All of us here today have known S. George Aquin O'Connor well—as loving sister and devoted aunt and grand-aunt, as Sister of St. Joseph, as gifted teacher, as President of St. Joseph's College from 1969–1997, or as President Emerita—in all roles, a gracious supportive figure in our lives...

Her favorite hymn—How Great Thou Art—gives away her love of the grandeur and majesty of God and her trust in His love to take her home. But such grandeur is not sentimental. After all, her patron was St. Thomas Aquinas, known for his intellect at the service of God, but not known to be warm and fuzzy. Her favorite expression of his was "I take truth wherever I find it." And she did in like manner.

...Her sense of stewardship was very highly developed: she owed it to her students to be an excellent, an inspirational teacher...to St. Joseph's College, as President, both to husband the resources carefully and to take the risks necessary to advance its growth. ...with wisdom and frugality she gave leadership to the College bringing the administration, faculty and college community along with her vision...

...The Sisters here today knew her...as an active, involved member of the Congregation, participating in every chapter from 1968 to the present. ...one quality I think every Sister in our local community would cite is how uncomplaining she was about the severe pain from



the arthritis; how patient and gracious she was...she loved her family in a special way...She followed their lives and activities closely. ...Sunday, November 11, she delighted us with probably her last very quick exchange. A devoted alumna, determined to explain the use of the call bell, asked if S. George would, just for fifteen seconds, let her be the teacher...S. George nodded in agreement but before her friend could speak, intoned, "one, two, three, four..." Vintage S. George...

In the last years of her life, every time she left the convent, she paused at the chapel, bowed toward the tabernacle and said, sometimes wryly, "Stay with us, Lord, for the day is now far spent." And stay with her, He did, as she drifted peacefully to sleep...Puccini playing softly in the background, and in her ear, Shakespeare's beautiful phrase: "And flights of angels sing thee to thy rest." ■



# Make Your Resolution To Give Online!



As we begin another New Year, we hope that in 2008 you'll make a resolution to give to St. Joseph's College—by donating online.

This year we hope to raise more funds than ever for academic scholarships, innovative programs and new equipment for our students. With your generosity, we can reach our goals.

Your gift to the St. Joseph's College Fund today will help benefit our leaders of tomorrow. Donate online now at [www.sjcny.edu/annualfund!](http://www.sjcny.edu/annualfund!)

For more information, please contact Carrie Graf on the Long Island Campus at 631.447.3396 or via e-mail at [cgraf@sjcny.edu](mailto:cgraf@sjcny.edu) or J.P. Lucero on the Brooklyn Campus at 718.636.6880 or via e-mail at [jplucero@sjcny.edu](mailto:jplucero@sjcny.edu).

Donate online now at [www.sjcny.edu/annualfund!](http://www.sjcny.edu/annualfund!)

**St. Joseph's  
College**  
NEW YORK



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Brooklyn, NY 11205

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